



# Women Of The Word

## Welcome

A recent quote from a pastor I follow on social media went like this... "Don't change the Bible. Change your mind. Sometimes, our expectations don't fit the Bible. This is precisely why we need to let the Bible guide us." After all, it is the perfect Word of God. As Christian women, we must remember that we are called to reflect God, not the world.

We are sometimes shocked at or resistant to what we read in the Bible because it is so different from our cultural norms. We must remove our own preconceptions and simply seek to please God, stand on His truth, and adjust our minds and lives to glorify Him.

Blessing to you all!!  
Melanie Woltje,  
Women's Ministry Team Leader

## Mission Statement

FBC Women's Ministry exists to empower our ladies to use their God-given gifts in accordance with God's will.

## Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth 1 John 3:18

In my last newsletter article, my aim was to make the point that genuine love is sacrificial in nature. The kind of love that Jesus calls us to display is the kind that denies self and esteems others. God honoring love is never to be self-promoting or self-exalting but is concerned with the needs of others.

This month I want us to think a bit deeper about the reality of love being *action*. Through the Apostle John, God reveals to us that we are not to attempt to love others with only mere words, but we are to display love in action. We've all heard the expression, "actions speak louder than words" and I'd venture to say that we all agree heartily with that statement. What woman wants to hear her husband say the words, "I love you" while at the same time receiving his actions that instill fear, anxiety, and harm? As Christians, we are instructed through the Scriptures to demonstrate love by our actions.

What does love in action look like? It can be as simple as seeing a need and rather than only offering words of comfort we find tangible ways to meet those needs. Maybe sacrificial love takes the form of changing our calendar so that we can be there for someone else. Love in action might be adjusting our spending habits so that we can give financial help to someone in need. Simply stated, this kind of love is serving others just as Jesus did (Mark 10:45).

Sadly, we live in a culture that is consumed with serving self. Even worse, followers of Jesus often follow the ways of the world around us rather than Jesus our Lord. Denying self and loving others sacrificially is a foundational aspect of being a disciple of Jesus.

(continued)

Jesus informs us that this kind of love is to be the defining mark of the Christian life. John records these crucial words of Jesus when He says, "Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are My disciples" (John 13:35).

What would it look like for us to make it our goal to love as Jesus loved? What if we began to seriously strive to give freely and sacrificially expecting nothing in return? What if others saw our love rather than only hearing flowery words about love? It just might be that they would see in us the light and love of Jesus. Remember, Jesus is our great example. "God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5:8). Jesus demonstrated love. Jesus put love into sacrificial action. May it be our goal to strive for nothing less than demonstrating our love for others by our actions.

In Love,  
Vanessa



### Bible Studies

Sundays @ 5:00 pm - Church - Old Testament Expedition Study - This study is open to men and women to discuss our [Old Testament Reading Plan](#).

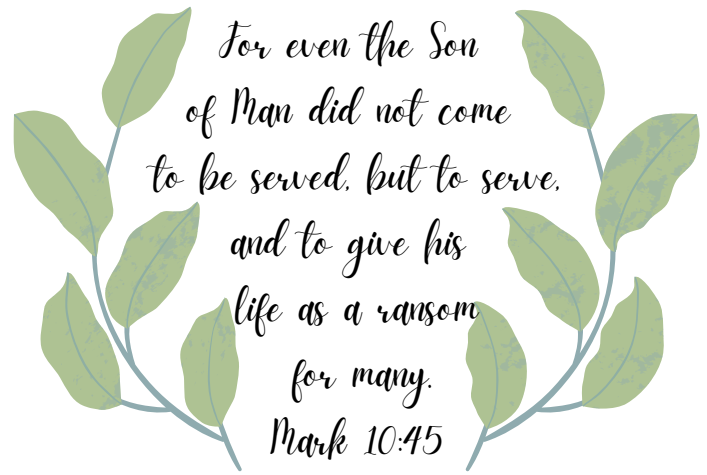
Wednesdays @ 9:30 am - Joan Little's Home (26675 P Rd) - Topic Varies

Amen: From Eden to Eternity - Mondays @ 6:30 pm



### Follow Us

Did you know we have a Women's Ministry Facebook Group? If you are not currently part of the group, we would love for you to be in the group. Look for us as Holton First Baptist Women's Ministry or click <https://www.facebook.com/groups/244260275623062>



### Upcoming Events

Tuesday, March 19 - GNO @ Trail's @ 6:15

Saturday, April 6 - Ladies Lunch @ FBC 10am - Noon  
Lena Hamilton, Missionary, will be sharing her experience serving the Chinese in Alaska and China

Thursday, May 25 - GNO @ Trail's @ 6:15

Monday, June 3 - Summer Bible Study Begins  
Saturday, June 29 - Summer Event

Thursday, August 1 - GNO @ Trail's @ 6:15

Monday, September 9 - Fall Bible Study Begins  
Saturday, September 28 - Fall Cookout

Tuesday, October 22 - GNO @ Trail's @ 6:15

Saturday, November 2 - Teaching Event  
Saturday, November 16 - OCC Shoebox Packing Party

The 2nd Tuesday of each month we meet @ Jhett's @ 11:30.

\*\*\*These dates are subject to change.\*\*\*

### FBC Women's Ministry Team

Team Leader: Melanie Woltje  
Brooke Black, Donna Jewell, Erin Lassey, Caitlin Murrow, Vanessa Wisdom

Contact Us: [womensministry@fbcholton.com](mailto:womensministry@fbcholton.com)

## Spiritual Disciplines: Hearing God's Word

Last month, we learned about the necessity of Bible intake for the spiritual maturity of the believer. One of the simplest forms of Bible intake is hearing the Word of God. We need to hear the gospel over and over again as we grow in Christlike maturity. The primary way to do this is by regularly attending a local church where we sit under the faithful teaching of God's Word.

We may be tempted to believe that the church is not a necessary part of our spiritual growth because we can read and study the Bible for ourselves at home, but God says otherwise. In 1 Timothy, Paul urges Timothy to devote himself to teaching the Word of God and reading in publicly to those whom he leads in his local context. This comes in the midst of Paul's warning about false teachers. Gathering together to hear Scripture read and taught was vital for uniting believers in the truth in order to help keep them from wandering into lies *disguised* as truth.

These exhortations are just as important for us today. With all the competing voices seeking to add to the gospel of grace—even the voice of our sin—it is vital that we discipline ourselves to hear the Word of God. We should heed the author of Hebrews in “not neglecting to meet together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging each other, and all the more as you see the day approaching.” (Heb. 10:25)

Through the preaching of the Word, God equips us for goods works, causes us to grow in unity, and forms us into a people who speak the truth and are united in love. The Bible calls us members of one body, and through coming together as the people of God to hear the teaching of His Word, we grow up together as a body.

There are several other supplementary practices we can employ to hear God's Word. Some find listening to an audio Bible while commuting or going for a walk helpful. Music that is saturated with Scripture can be a wonderful way to keep God's Word in our ears. We can also practice speaking the truth of God's Word to one another regularly.

God's command to hear the Word is a call to receive the teaching of Scripture and live in response to its truth. This is why James 1:22 warns us to be doers of the Word, not just hearers.

(Growing in Grace: Knowing and Loving God Through Spiritual Disciplines)



### *FBC Women's Ministry Team*

Team Leader: Melanie Woltje

Brooke Black, Donna Jewell, Erin Lassey, Caitlin Murrow, Vanessa Wisdom

Contact Us: [womensministry@fbcholton.com](mailto:womensministry@fbcholton.com)