



Women Of The Word

Welcome

As Christians, we tend to think of idolatry as worship of carved stone images or little wooden figures, and we relegate it to the past—choosing to believe idolatry has no place in our modern society that is so much more ‘evolved’ than past people groups. We couldn’t be more wrong. An idol is anything we place in importance over God. It could be the house we live in, the cars we drive, or the way we look in the mirror. How about our children? Our marriages? Our comfort? These ideas start to hit closer to home.

Please consider joining our summer Bible study: More Than Anything. Loving God Above Everything Else. It will be offered on two different days. One will be evening. The other will be morning. More details are on page 2 of this newsletter!

In His love,
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.

May Guest Article - Brooke Black

Continued from April!

Run with endurance.

“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.”

James 1:5-8 ESV

I think I am often like the one who doubts that James so vividly describes. I am a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind, or an unhappy spouse, a child’s meltdown, or a heartbreak of betrayal. I am so easily driven by my circumstances. I am learning, that “hardship in this life is brief and fleeting compared to the weight of eternal glory that we have in store for us and that a quick fix rarely produces good character.” (Abbie Halberstadt, “Hard is not the Same Thing as Bad”)

Looking to Jesus.

As the scriptures mentioned before, do not be conformed to the world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind; talk about the scriptures when you’re sitting, when you’re walking, and when you’re lying down; think on things that are true, God-honoring and just; ask the Lord for wisdom; and make time with the Lord in prayer and reading scripture a priority.

(continued)



Guest Article, Continued

One of our children has struggled from a very young age with emotional outbursts, is often drawn to things of the world, and has doubts of her self-worth. She has always found reading and writing to be particularly challenging. Parenting definitely doesn't come with any quick fixes so God must be really working on my character. However this week this dear child of mine wrote a five-chapter book on her own time about sharing the gospel with others. The characters included many of her stuffed animal friends. One animal began to share with the other, that God sent his son Jesus to die on the cross to save them from their sins. They only needed ask for forgiveness and have faith in Jesus. Then the one animal went and shared with the next little friend and on and on. It sure encouraged this mama's heart to keep on running the race with endurance, and I hope it does yours as well.

Get rid of sin that clings so closely, run with endurance, look to Jesus. I have a long way to go on my journey of sanctification, but thankfully His mercies are never ending.

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." Lamentations 3:22-23 ESV

More Than Anything: Loving God Above Everything Else

When God created us, He crafted us with hearts to worship Him alone. He did so with intentions of drawing near to His people in a loving relationship and dwelling with them. Yet, when confronted with temptation, mankind chose to believe that we could create better gods for ourselves. The idols that vie for our worship look different for every Christian. We may not even be able to identify them on our own! We need to ask ourselves some difficult questions. Where does my heart turn to find fulfillment? What consumes my thoughts? What tempts me to believe that God is not enough? The hope and goal of this study is to unveil anything that may direct our worship away from God.

Beginning the week of June 3rd, this summer study is open to women of all ages. We encourage teenagers to consider spending part of the summer diving into these subjects!! Official dates and times will be coming out very soon-- be on the look out for more info!!



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



Upcoming Events

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

Spiritual Disciplines: Reading and Studying God's Word Together

It is vital for the believer's sanctification to learn to read, understand, interpret, and apply the Bible on her own, but studying Scripture with others also produces important spiritual fruit. Studying Scripture in community can take many forms, from working through a book of the Bible at a coffee shop with a friend to a group study at a local church, but they are all valuable for our spiritual maturity. It helps deepen our knowledge of God, ourselves, and others.

Studying God's Word together is rooted in God's design for us. We are not meant to live life apart, but rather, together as a whole. Scripture repeatedly uses the metaphor of a body to describe Christians. Each believer is an individual part, and together in our various capacities, we form a healthy, well-functioning body. Each member has God-given gifts that are given for the good of the whole.

In studying Scripture together, one person may quickly recognize God's power and might, while someone else more easily picks up on His mercy and grace. When we study together, we learn to recognize themes that we might otherwise overlook—this new insight makes its way back into our personal study. The more we study Scripture together, the fuller our vision of who God has revealed Himself to be in the Bible.

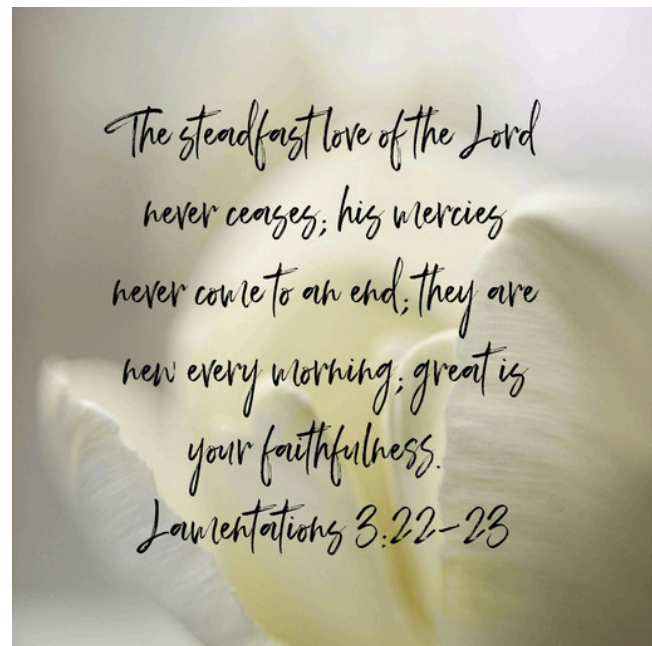
We learn more about ourselves. In one sense, this self-knowledge flows directly out of the fuller knowledge of God that stems from studying the Bible with others. Others may highlight passages that we might naturally rush through on our own. Acknowledging our faults can be uncomfortable, and we may move more quickly through parts of the Bible that confront our own sin issues when we are studying by ourselves. Instead, we are forced to face these uncomfortable passages. Discomfort is a good thing as it makes way for confession. 1 John 1:9 assures us that confession brings about forgiveness and cleansing.

Studying Scripture together also facilitates looking outward. We have the opportunity to see how God's Word applies to people with different circumstances, backgrounds, and sin patterns. We have the blessing of seeing how the truth of the gospel brings hope to all kinds of situations. As we hear other perspectives and life stories, we begin to see real people behind sins that we have not personally experienced. This strengthens our ability to minister to others who are different from us.

As we study together, we are sanctified and unified as the body of Christ. It is not always convenient, and we may fear judgment or vulnerability, but it is worth it. God has given us one another for our encouragement and growth and for His glory.

Additional reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-26, Proverbs 27:17, Ecclesiastes 4:9

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



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