

Women Of The Word

Welcome

Throughout the Old Testament, we see Israel turn away from God again and again. It breaks our hearts, but it often confounds us, too. We are so certain that if we had seen all the wonders God had done for His people-- the ways He had provided and protected them-- we would never have been unfaithful to Him.

But look at our own country. Very soon, we have a chance to exercise our right to help shape our country. In 2 Chr. 7:14, God promises, "if my people... humble themselves, and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

With humble hearts, let's fervently repent of our sins and beg God to heal our land!

Blessings,
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.

Guest Article - Vanessa Wisdom

May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer. Psalm 19:14

Oh, how I wish that every word that I spoke was glorifying to God and beneficial to others. Sadly, that is often far from the truth. Lately I've been camping out in Proverbs, reading over and over the warnings of the damage our speech can do. These verses bring me to my knees in repentance and prayer that God would change my heart and my mouth so that He would be glorified when I speak. Conviction and repentance are gifts from God, but often these gifts can be painful to the believer. Perhaps I'm not alone in my need to repent and align my heart and speech with God's standard. Thus, I invite you to camp in these verses with me.

Too much talk leads to sin. Be sensible and keep your mouth shut. Proverbs 10:19

The heart of the godly thinks carefully before speaking; the mouth of the wicked overflows with evil words. Proverbs 15:28

A truly wise person uses few words; a person with understanding is even-tempered. Proverbs 17:27

(continued)

The tongue can bring death or life; those who love to talk will reap the consequences.

Proverbs 18:21

The mouth of the godly person gives wise advice, but the tongue that deceives will be cut off. The lips of the godly speak helpful words, but the mouth of the wicked speaks perverse words.

Proverbs 10:31-32

Some people make cutting remarks, but the words of the wise bring healing. Truthful words stand the test of time, but lies are soon exposed.

Proverbs 12:18-19

One who guards his mouth protects his life; One who opens wide his lips comes to ruin.

Proverbs 13:3

Love you all dearly,
Vanessa

*I will praise God's name
in song and glorify him
with thanksgiving.
Psalm 69:30*



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



Upcoming Events

Saturday, November 16 - OCC Shoebox Packing Party - 10am Fellowship Hall

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

These dates are subject to change.



First Baptist Church 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: Fellowship of Believers



A survey of the overall story of Scripture shows God always in pursuit of His people. This is because God covenanted to save a people for Himself before sin even entered the world. God created His image-bearers from an overflow of perfect love and fellowship experienced within the Godhead (the Father, the Son & Holy Spirit), and this will be fully realized at the consummation when His people will be gathered together and live in His presence in the new heaven and new earth (Revelation 21). Believers, while invited to a personal relationship with God through Christ, experience God more fully when they are part of a church. In His infinite wisdom, God created us to live out our faith in a communal way, collectively as His people. Until Jesus returns, we have the gift of fellowship of Christian believers! David declared in Psalm 133:1, "How delightfully good when brother live together in harmony!" Like other spiritual disciplines, living together in harmony with fellow believers is something we do, and regular fellowship with other believers is a means of God's grace in our lives.

We can see that the early church devoted themselves to daily fellowship (Acts 2:42). Meeting together as a church is important. But we may wonder what Christian fellowship should look like today. There are a few defining activities that believers do within the local church that are uniquely important, and they are called ordinances. Baptism and the Lord's Supper visibly distinguish the community of believers that make up the church. These ordinances are explicitly found in Scripture, and they are far richer than mere Christian tradition or religious ritual. They are outward expressions of the inward disposition of our union with Christ.

Baptism and partaking of the Lord's Supper were ordained by Jesus for the edification of His body. In Matt. 28:19-20, Jesus commanded His disciples, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you." Baptism is a command for every believer. The Holy Spirit affirms this through the Apostle Peter in Acts 2:38 when Peter says, "Repent and be baptized, each of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." Baptism is an act of obedience to God. The physical act of baptism is symbolic of one's spiritual reality; it is a visible symbol of repentance in the believer's heart. The water represents cleansing of sin that comes through the life, death, and resurrection of Christ.

Jesus also instituted the Lord's Supper. In 1 Cor. 11:24-25, He offers the bread & wine to His disciples as symbols of His body and "the new covenant in His blood." Today, believers regularly partake in the Lord's Supper in remembrance of Christ and His death, burial, and resurrection. The Bible does not specify the frequency of the Lord's Supper. However, it is a regular practice seen within the fellowship of the early church. Partaking in the Lord's Supper is an essential component of Christian fellowship.

These ordinances are expressions of the new birth that believers have in Christ. In Christ, we are children of God. This is now our identity and this new birth leads to new life. As obedient children, we are to love one another constantly with a pure heart (1 Pet. 1:22). Christian fellowship is an overflow of being God's children. It is the outward sign of a shared, inward reality. We, as Christians, ought to live differently because we are different. Our fellowship is not like the world's. It goes beyond shared interests, causes, and passions. Christian fellowship is an expression of hearts and minds united by the gospel of Jesus. This is why Christian fellowship enjoys true unity within diversity. It is about Jesus and together, being His people. We share in each other's sufferings and carry one another's burdens. It involves confessing to each other, extending grace, and reminding one another of the gospel.

Christian fellowship requires intentionality—a commitment to be an active member of the body of Christ. Our fellowship requires effort, vulnerability, and authenticity rooted in the truth of the gospel. This may be in a small group, a Sunday school class, or some other setting. Regardless, it happens in the local church as we study Scripture, pray, and share our lives together.

Additional reading... Romans 6:1-11;
Matthew 26:26-28; 1 Peter 1:14-22
(Growing in Grace: Knowing and Loving
God Through Spiritual Disciplines)

*Happy Thanksgiving
to you and your family*

First Baptist Church Women's Ministry Team

Team Leader: Melanie Woltje

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

Contact Us: womensministry@fbcholton.com