



Women of the Word

Welcome

Busy, busy, busy! It is easy to get overwhelmed with the demands of life—but this time of year, it seems impossible not to be busy. So, what do we do when we find ourselves in these seasons? We ask God to align our priorities with His. Are we keeping God first, family second, and everything else after that? We also *plan!* It may not be very fun, but a little organization can ease a lot of stress and upheaval. It helps our homes run smoother, our marriages be more harmonious, and our family lives thrive—or at least not flounder!! Proverbs 16:3 tells us, “Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.” Ladies, God’s plans for our lives are best—ask Him to help you, because He is faithful!!

In Christ,

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.

June Guest Column - Vanessa Wisdom

During our years of ministry, women have frequently sought biblical counsel from me on one recurring question. How can I know my purpose in life? There really is a simple answer to this question.

The purpose of man is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever. We glorify God by fearing and obeying Him. We enjoy God by having an intimate relationship with Him and knowing Him as our greatest treasure.

I hope you can join us for the summer Bible study as we read the book, *A Woman After God’s Own Heart* by Elizabeth George. In this study, you will experience peace, order, and joy when you follow God’s guidelines for every area of your life, and best of all, you will become a woman after His heart!

Elizabeth George shares God’s Word and woman-to-woman practical wisdom on how you can pursue God’s priorities by...

- putting God first in your day, your heart, and your life
- improving your relationships with family and friends
- building a strong bond with your husband
- raising your children to follow Jesus and make right choices
- growing in your service to others

As you embrace God’s plans for you, you will find real purpose in a life of prayer and practicing God’s priorities as you become *A Woman After God’s Own Heart*.

With Love, Vanessa



We have been planted with a purpose
- come grow with us!

Saturday, June 13th at 9am

Fellowship Hall

We will have teaching sessions, a planting/potting activity, and a service project as we reflect on how God uses us for His purposes.

Lunch will be provided.

Shirts are available at no cost.

Register on the FBC app or website, or scan the QR code. We hope to see you there!



Bible Studies

Wednesdays at 9:30 AM - Joan Little's House (26675 P Road) - New study on Ephesians starting June 10th

Mondays starting June 8th at 5:30pm - Summer Bible Study - *A Woman After God's Own Heart* Book Study. Contact Melanie if you haven't already signed up!



Upcoming Events

2nd Tuesday of each month - Jhett's lunch at 11:30

Saturday June 13th - Summer Event - see more details to the left!

Friday, July 24th - Bunco at FBC

Thursday August 6 - Girl's Night Out 6:15 Location TBD

These dates are subject to change

First Baptist Church Women's Ministry Team

Team Leader: Melanie Woltje
Christi Boyden, Danica Haverkamp, Lisa Haverkamp,
Donna Jewell, Erin Lassey, Vanessa Wisdom

The Heart of Christ: Delights in the Father

Imagine the panic in the eyes of Mary and Joseph when they realize their twelve-year-old son, whom they know to be the Son of God and with whom God had entrusted them to raise, is not within arm's reach. Scripture tells us that they traveled an entire day before realizing Jesus was not with them. Consumed by fear and dread, they raced back to Jerusalem to find their son, their boy, in the temple listening to the rabbis' teaching.

Still and quiet, He sat and listened, likely raising His hand to ask questions that came to His mind and answering the questions of those around Him. It was then that Mary and Joseph asked their son why He had not been with them. Did He not understand how scared they were? His young face may have reflected confusion and bewilderment as He answered their question with one in return, "Why were you searching for me? . . . Didn't you know it was necessary for me to be in my Father's house?" (Luke 2:49).

His parents had watched Him grown into a young man. They were assigned to steward Him throughout His earthly life. First steps, kissed boo-boos, carpentry lessons, and goodnight hugs must have filled their days that turned into years. They were His parents. But they had forgotten that though He was their son, He first delights in His Father. He desired to be in the presence of His first love, His true Father, with whom He was One.

Jesus delighted in God's will and desired for His will always to be done, even when it required the greatest sacrifice of His life. Through the emotional torment, through the lashes and bleeding, through the beating sounds of a hammer driving nails into His hands and feet, through it all, He delighted in his Father. He took the cup of wrath given to Him by God—the cup that passed over those who were deserving of it. He did it all because, more than anything, He desired for His Father's will to be done, for His mission to be complete. And now, as His followers, we can partake in the blessing of delighting in our heavenly Father, which is a reflection of the heart of Jesus. We delight in Him and He in us. Where else would we want to be but in the presence of our Father?

Additional reading... Luke 2:41-52, John 6:38, Matthew 5:17-20
(*The Heart of Christ* from The Daily Grace Co.)

First Baptist Church Women's Ministry Team

Team Leader: Melanie Woltje
Christi Boyden, Danica Haverkamp, Lisa Haverkamp,
Donna Jewell, Erin Lassey, Vanessa Wisdom

The Prophets of God

The prophets of the Old Testament were persons uniquely called of God and supernaturally given God's messages to pass on to us. God spoke His word through the lips and writings of the prophets.

Prophecy involved both future prediction (foretelling) and present proclamation and exhortation of God's word (forthtelling). The prophets were so endowed by the Holy Spirit that their words were God's words. That is why prophetic messages were often prefaced by the phrase, "Thus says the Lord."

The prophets were reformers of Israel's religion. They called the people back to pure worship and obedience to God. Although the prophets were critical of the way Jewish worship often degenerated into mere ritual, they did not condemn or attack the original forms of worship that God had given His people. The prophets were not revolutionaries or religious anarchists. Their task was to purify, not destroy, to reform, not replace the worship of Israel.

The prophets were also deeply concerned about social justice and righteousness. They were the conscience of Israel, calling the people to repentance. They also functioned as God's covenantal lawsuit prosecutors. They "served subpoenas" on the nation for violating the terms of the covenant with God.

Prophets spoke with divine authority because God specifically called them to be His

spokesmen. They did not inherit their office, nor were they elected to it. The immediate call from God coupled with the Holy Spirit's power constituted the prophets' credentials.

False prophets were a constant problem in Israel. Instead of speaking the oracles of God, they related their own dreams and opinions—telling people only what they wanted to hear. The true prophets were frequently severely persecuted and rejected by their contemporaries for refusing to compromise the proclamation of the whole counsel of God.

Sometimes the books of the prophets are divided into the "major prophets" and the "minor prophets". This distinction is a reference not to greater or lesser importance of the prophets, but to the volume of their canonical writings. Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Daniel are called major prophets because they wrote so much, while Amos, Hosea, Micah, Jonah, etc., are referred to as the minor prophets because their books are much smaller.

The New Testament apostles possessed many of the characteristics of the Old Testament prophets. The apostles and the prophets together are called the foundation of the church.

(ESV Reformation Study Bible; Theological Notes)

First Baptist Church Women's Ministry Team

Team Leader: Melanie Woltje
Christi Boyden, Danica Haverkamp, Lisa Haverkamp,
Donna Jewell, Erin Lassey, Vanessa Wisdom