

Women's Ministries Newsletter



February 2018

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Genealogies of the Bible

The genealogies of the Bible had never seemed very compelling to me. For many years, the “Mahalalel lived after he fathered Jared 830 years and had other sons and daughters” kinds of descriptions didn’t seem very applicable or poignant to me. I’d quickly gloss over them.

But we know that every word of God is inspired by Him for our instruction. He put each one there with great intentionality. So you and I both would do good to linger there, for tucked in the middle of these lengthy genealogies and family trees are priceless gems. If I skim through the passage, I miss them completely. For example, look at Genesis 5. In the midst of a straight-up rundown of Adam’s descendants to Noah, we get to verses 18-24:

“When Jared had lived 162 years he fathered Enoch. Jared lived after he fathered Enoch 800 years and had other sons and daughters. Thus all the years of Jared were 962 years, and he died. When Enoch had lived 65 years, he fathered Methuselah. Enoch walked with God after he fathered Methuselah 300 years and had other sons and daughters. Thus all the days of Enoch were 365 years. Enoch walked with God and he was not, for God took him.”

In the midst of this lengthy list of who fathered who, Moses---through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit---made sure we knew that---this Enoch? He was a man who walked with God.

Similarly, we get to Genesis 10. We read the listing of all the descendants of Noah. Verse 6 continues:

“The sons of Ham: Cush, Egypt, Put, and Canaan. The sons of Cush: Seba, Havilah, Sabtah, Raamah, and Sabteca. The sons of Raamah: Sheba and Dedan. Cush fathered Nimrod; he was the first on earth to be a mighty man. He was a mighty hunter before the Lord. Therefore it is said, ‘Like Nimrod a mighty hunter before the Lord.’”

Each of the others descendants is simply a listing. But for each of these men, there is a pause...a detour of sorts. God specifically wants to tell us about these men. He wants us to know that they walked with Him.

Of course, this led to a soul-stirring question in my heart: If God were recounting my family history, making note of each branch upon my family tree, what would He say when He got to me? Would He pause with joy? “Now this girl...she walked with Me.” Or would my name be simply that? A blip before proceeding to my children?

Oh, ladies: as 2018 stretches out before us, may we be known as faithful to our God and to our families. May the words we speak be so much more than words, but a true, authentic reflection of the work God is doing deep down inside us. May we look ahead with eagerness as He continues to teach, woo, convict, and walk beside us.

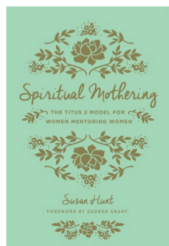




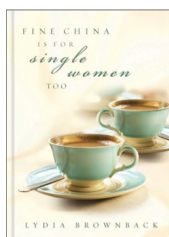
Great Reads!



Love by the Book “represents a brief study of what God says about love and marriage in the Song of Solomon...Love by the Book brings much wisdom to the discussion, showing that marriage is a gift of love from a wise and caring heavenly Father.”



“Featuring inspiring stories from the Bible and from women today who have faithfully embraced Scripture’s command, this book offers readers an abundance of practical insights, ministry-tested how-to’s, and personal encouragement...and will inspire a new generation of women to seek out the blessing of godly relationships that will encourage and equip them to live for God’s glory.”



“This is your life! You will never find contentment in living for what you hope tomorrow may hold. Contentment is for today.” Fine China is for Single Women Too “emphasizes living contentedly and fully in what God ordains in each season of life, specifically when his ordering is singleness.”

Each year, we send a gift to each of our missionary women on behalf of the ladies of eFree. This is a way to extend our love and encouragement; to remind them of our faithful prayers. Pictured is this year’s gift of love that has gone out around the world. Thanks for your ongoing love and support of these precious women who are serving Jesus around the globe.



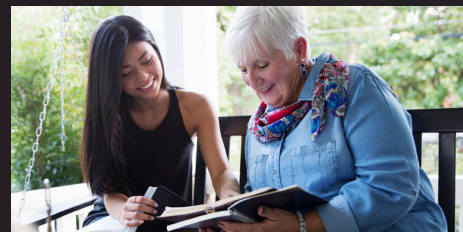
Gather your girlfriends and make plans to attend a **True Woman Event on Friday, April 6 at 6:30pm** in the multi-purpose room. We’ll join our hearts in worship and view a classic message from our friends at Revive Our Hearts. Then we’ll set aside some time to talk it through with our friends, discussing how to apply it to our lives. Please set aside this night to connect with women---both older and younger---and enjoy a sweet time of growth in the Word.



Early Bird pricing through May 1! Visit www.truewoman18.com

Reaching, Teaching and Encouraging Women in Christian Faith and Fellowship

“Women’s Ministries seeks to support the church’s mission and vision to multiply disciples of Jesus Christ. Committed to the Word as our authority, we’re passionate about nurturing a culture in which Titus 2 discipleship (*older teaching younger*) can thrive by providing opportunities, resources, and support for women of all ages to connect with one another and the Lord Jesus Christ.”



Titus 2 Groups

This January we launched a new ministry to women called Titus 2 Groups. The purpose of Titus 2 discipleship is for spiritually mature women to share the gospel and their lives (2 Thessalonians 2:7-8) with younger women in order to encourage and equip them to live for God’s glory. Each Titus 2 Group consists of one mentor and three or four other ladies meeting once a month to grow in a particular topic. God has been using these new relationships in deep and profound ways already. One Titus 2 Groups mentor shared this:

“At our first small group meeting, there were women of different ages and stages of life. Most didn’t know each other before walking into the room. As the evening progressed, women began to feel the freedom to share their stories with both laughter and tears. The response of the others was to be supportive, encouraging, and to pray for those who shared. It was exciting to see God working in a diverse group of women to bring a spirit of unity and sisterhood in such a short period of time. The evening ended with hugs, words of encouragement, and a spirit of anticipation of getting together again to learn more of God’s ways as we grow in community with each other.”

We all need to grow in our walk with the Lord. If you long to walk with an “older” woman in the faith and experience the benefits of having someone pray for you, encourage you, and dig into the Word with you, this is your opportunity! A new batch of Titus 2 Groups will launch this September. Begin praying about your involvement!