

Women's Ministries Newsletter

experience compersion

We've all experienced it. The very last moments of our favorite movie when the problem finds a solution, the lovers are reunited, and all of the pieces come to fit together. Our hearts fill with a warm and fuzzy feeling (and maybe a little tear) as we experience this feeling of gladness. It's the definition of "feel good". Hallmark is making millions off of this emotion every Christmas as they create 100 versions of the same movie, but change a few actors and a few sets, all to pull out this heartwarming mood. We experience this in real life tangible ways when our friends share that they are engaged, grandchildren take their first steps, "remission" is the new diagnosis... it's a deep gratefulness, a gladness, a relief, a million other felt emotions that have the same root: joy.

In a broken world, we experience the other side of this emotion far too often. The opposite of joy and the warm fuzzy feeling is jealousy and comparison. The number one killer of joy is jealousy. But what is the opposite of comparison? Meet a new favorite word: Compersion. A word that means "The feeling of joy when one has experienced another's joy".

John 15 is the perfect place to close the gap on how it is possible to experience compersion, rather than comparison. The lineup: Jesus tells us that when we abide in him, the Vine, we are connected to the life source and have the ability to bear fruit. By abiding in Jesus, we bring glory to the Father, and the perfect circle of love commences. Jesus tells us, "*These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full*" (John 15:11). What does that mean? Jesus tells us we can know perfect love through abiding in Him and experience His perfect joy---joy that allows us to experience compersion everyday; the joy that fills us up so that when we come across a place where we might feel comparison, jealousy, or lack, we're too full to make it about us. We get to experience love in action best when we experience joy for another person.

The secret of full time compersion? Abiding in Him. To achieve this, we must no longer treat abiding as a checklist or make excuses because it isn't possible in "this season of life." Bearing fruit until our basket overflows and the produce of our relationship with Jesus is impossible for us not to share. May we be women of compersion, abiding and deep-rooted joy in Jesus.

how has God called you to show His love and grace to the people around you?

- ☞ Build one another up (Romans 15:2)
- ☞ Welcome one another as Christ has welcomed us (Romans 15:7)
- ☞ Greet one another (Romans 16:16)
- ☞ Care for one another (1 Corinthians 12:25)
- ☞ Serve one another (Galatians 5:13)
- ☞ Bear one another's burdens (Galatians 6:2)
- ☞ Be kind, tenderhearted, and forgiving to one another (Ephesians 4:32)
- ☞ Forgive one another (Colossians 3:13)
- ☞ Comfort one another (1 Thessalonians 4:18)
- ☞ Encourage one another (Hebrews 10:25)
- ☞ Meet with one another (Hebrews 10:25)
- ☞ Pray for one another (James 5:16)
- ☞ Show hospitality to one another (1 Peter 4:9)
- ☞ Minister to one another (1 Peter 4:10)

ladies' prayer gathering

Join us for a sweet morning of worship, response, and intercession as we battle together on our knees.

Ladies' Prayer Gathering
Saturday morning, April 4
9 to 10:30am
multi-purpose room



Did you know that eFree offers Sunday morning electives at 9:30am? Equip is relational and intergenerational, intended to equip you to grow in your love for Jesus and lead in your homes, workplace, and community.

We recently concluded a powerful 6-week study of “Lies Women Believe” by Nancy Wolgemuth. Together we asked God to shine a bright light on our hearts and expose the lies we believe with the Truth of His Word. It was a beautiful time as together we prayed for one another and grew closer to Jesus.

You can find “Lies Women Believe” in our church library.



a word from our students:

At the EFCA Districts Youth Conference last month, the topic was “Relationships that Matter”. During this action packed conference, we looked at developing healthy relationships and making a difference in those peoples’ lives and becoming who God has called us to be. Here are some thoughts from our students on how Districts impacted them!

“I felt really convicted about my relationships with some of my family members, realizing that I wasn’t allowing God to change my attitude and be someone who had accepted God’s forgiveness, and then give that forgiveness to others. I got home and I sat down and had a conversation.”

“I was really excited about the focus on relationships. I know that it’s important to make friend choices that push me closer to Jesus, but sometimes having the courage to remove myself from unhealthy relationships is hard. This weekend was just what I needed to make some changes”.

“Districts always helps me refocus my relationship with God. It’s the best weekend of the year. It’s the encouragement I need to restart the year well, get my heart right and get back into reading my Bible”.

“This year at Districts, I rededicated my life to the Lord. I am so excited to grow in my relationship and since Districts, I have had a hunger for God’s word. I’m excited for what God is going to do in 2020!”.

“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.”