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Women's Devotional eNewsletter | September 2018

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## Your Name

*“Hi. I am a grateful believer in Jesus Christ and I struggle with anger and fear of the future. My name is Vicki.”*



You may or may not be familiar with this introductory format. The first time I had to say those words was four years ago when I attended my first Celebrate Recovery Step Study group. What happened over the course of the next 9 months changed my life forever.

Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-based program that helps us overcome our hurts, hang-ups, and habits... and believe me, I have many. If we were all openly honest about it (which at one time I wasn't), we might all admit that we live in the same boat. We even might agree that at times we feel like broken, discarded pieces of pottery that need to be gathered off the ground and remolded into something beautiful and useful. And perhaps most of us wouldn't hide the fact that behind the masks we wear every day, we each carry around pain from our past life experiences.

But here's the rub. As Christ-followers, we can't live the victorious life we sing and learn about in church each week until we can learn to be honest with ourselves, with others, and with the God who loves us deeply. We can't experience an authentic relationship with Jesus until we recognize, claim, and learn to answer to the names by which He calls us.

My given birth name is Kazue. When I was adopted, I was given the name Vicki. And when I asked Jesus into my life, I was given many other new names. Names like Forgiven. Chosen. Friend. His Child. Faithful. Brand New. But you see, the problem is that I sometimes forget those new names. Instead, I start listening to the names the world has given me. Names like Loser. Unclean. Worthless. Unlovable. Inadequate. Unfaithful. And when I do that, I begin to falter. My attitude becomes ungrateful and critical. My relationships become

more difficult. I become angry. And then I begin to worry and allow anxiety to be the rule and not the exception. I ashamedly take my eyes off Jesus.

Recently I attended a Celebrate Recovery event where [Hosanna Poetry](#) was one of the featured performers. I had never heard any of her "spoken word" messages before and so had no preconceived notions or expectations. I ended up being deeply moved by her testimony, her strength, and her message that pierced my heart and allowed years of pent up self-doubt and self-worth issues to rise to the surface and be challenged. It was painful, but oh so freeing. And I am now more determined than ever to not allow the world to have victory over me. I will be more intentional about establishing my identify based on Whose I am, and not as the world has labeled me. Won't you join me?

*"You'll get a brand-new name straight from the mouth of God. You'll be a stunning crown in the palm of God's hand, a jeweled gold cup held high in the hand of your God. No more will anyone call you Rejected, and your country will no more be called Ruined. You'll be called Hephzibah (My Delight), and your land Beulah (Married), Because God delights in you and your land will be like a wedding celebration."* [Taken from Isaiah 62 MSG](#)

### *Reflect & Respond*

- What is your name? Not just your given name, but ones you identify with the most. Are they names some else has called you? Or ones the world has labeled you with? How do they make you feel, act?
- Have you been able to throw off those names and see yourself through the names that your Heavenly Father uses for you? List the names He has given you that you identify with the most? How do they make you feel, act?
- What next steps can you take to discover the names God has given you and so begin to live a more victorious life?



*Your Name* was written by Vicki Kennedy.

Vicki is currently Administrative Support for Community Ministries at Fellowship Fayetteville, but she has worn many hats throughout several careers including radio and TV broadcast journalism, development and marketing, and real estate (ask her about them!). Her greatest joys have been her 37 year marriage to her husband Wayne, raising three great kids (never a dull moment!), grandparenting two beautiful granddaughters (yes, she has pictures!), serving in [Celebrate Recovery](#) through worship choir and as a step study leader, and partnering with her husband in the creation and development of the [GAP/Grandparents As Parents](#) support groups through Fellowship Care Ministries. Her favorite scripture? [Romans 8:37-38 MSG](#)

*Past issues: Fayetteville Women's Devotional  
eNewsletter*

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## Fall Studies Start Next Week!

[REGISTER HERE](#)

**\*\*NEW** - Childcare is now available during both morning and evening sessions!\*\*

## **What Love is: The Letters of 1, 2, & 3 John**

**Tuesdays | Sept 11 - Dec 4 | 9:00-11:00am or 6:30-8:00pm**

The letters of 1, 2, & 3 John were written to encourage followers of Jesus to remain faithful to the truth. In this study by Kelly Minter believers are challenged to look at contrasting themes such as walking in the light instead of darkness, truth versus lies and deception, loving God more than loving the world, and the meaning of true fellowship and community rather than shallowness. This study reveals not only the heart of John but also the heart of Jesus. *Purchase your study book at LifeWay in Rogers or [order online](#) (approx. \$13).*

## **Living Beyond Yourself: Exploring the Fruit of the Spirit**

**Tuesdays | Sept 11 through April of 2019 | 9:00-11:00am**

This Vintage Gals group is open to empty-nest stage of life women who enjoy digging into the truth of God's Word while challenging and encouraging one another. This Beth Moore study will explore in-depth the fruit of the spirit in the Book of Galatians, taking a look at the supernatural aspects of the fruit and how you cannot grow, learn, or produce fruit on your own. *Purchase your study book at LifeWay in Rogers or [order online](#) (approx \$16).*

## **The Significant Woman**

### **Connecting with God - Discovering Your Personal Mission**

**Tuesdays | Sept 11 - Dec 4 | 9:00-11:00am**

Did you know that very few women have a personal mission statement? Only through knowing our personal mission is it possible to stay grounded and focused on what God has called us to do. In this Life-Coaching study you will grow in intimacy with God, uncover your personal uniqueness, and discover your own personal mission. [Check out this video](#) to see what it's all about!

## **Newcomers**

**Tuesdays | Sept 11 - Dec 4 | 9:00-11:00am or 6:30-8:00pm**

The letters of 1, 2, & 3 John were written to encourage followers of Jesus to remain faithful to the truth. In this study by Kelly Minter believers are challenged to look at contrasting themes such as walking in the light instead of darkness, truth versus lies and deception, loving God more than loving the world, and the meaning of true fellowship and community rather than shallowness. This study reveals not only the heart of John but also the heart of Jesus. *Purchase your study book at LifeWay in Rogers or [order online](#) (approx. \$13).*

Questions about Fall Studies? Contact [fayettevillewomen@fellowshipnwa.org](mailto:fayettevillewomen@fellowshipnwa.org).

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## Wrapping Up Summer

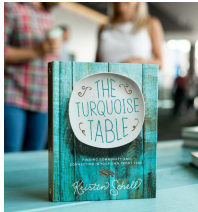
### **Tell us your Turquoise Table Story!**

Just for fun...do you have a Turquoise Table story from this summer you can share with us? New friends made? Old friendships renewed? Lives enriched? How have you used your own turquoise table to create community? We'd love to hear from you! Send us your story and we'll pick one to share in next month's eNewsletter, just like the one below that was sent in by Stephanie Hicks. Email your story to [fayettevillewomen@fellowshipnwa.org](mailto:fayettevillewomen@fellowshipnwa.org).

*"I was reading the (Turquoise Table) book in my front yard one evening as my neighbor came over to talk. She was stressed about a lot of things and I told her about the fun book I was reading. She immediately said, "I'm in!" I think after a busy school year, we both needed that reconnection time with friends/neighbors and a way to get new neighbors involved.*

*My table turned into turquoise chairs, because I couldn't find the perfect table for now. I also got a turquoise table cloth for the patio table, in case it was too hot or rainy. We frequently text the neighborhood group, "Meet me at the Turquoise" for a brief time to relax and talk with each other. So much you can do with the idea to connect with old and new friends. I did a late night M & M cookie delivery and my brain is always stirring of more connection ideas. Thanks to the team for introducing us to this book!*

**Stephanie Hicks**



It's not too late to grab your own copy of [The Turquoise Table](#) by Kristen Schell. You'll be encouraged to step outside your home and into your community and get to know your neighbors. Books are available at the Women's Booth in the Worship Foyer on Sundays for only \$10/book, or pick one up at the Fellowship Fayetteville main office Monday through Thursday, 8:30am-4:30pm.

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## Resources



### **Discipleship for Women | [Learn more & enroll](#)**

As a Christ follower today, we strive to incorporate discipleship into our everyday relationships. It is not just evangelizing, but mentoring: a spiritually older woman in Christ (discipler) teaches and models how to live a godly faith-filled life to a spiritually younger woman (disciplee). Formats may vary with each relationship, but Christ and the Bible remain at the center with spiritual maturity and reproduction, the goal.



### **Fellowship NWA | [Women's Devotional Blog](#)**

Subscribe to *Women's Ministry Devotional Blog* from our sisters at Fellowship NWA Women's Ministry.

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## Ministry Spotlight

### **Ladies of Grace**

*This Prison Ministry group organizes a weekly Bible Study and prayer team for local female inmates.*

**Contact:** [Carolyn Schmitt](#)

### **Moms & Munchkins**

*The group provides community for moms of preschoolers. Meets weekly on Fridays.*

**Contact:** [Katie Glover](#)

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## Service Opportunity

### **Front Office Volunteers Needed**

If you have administrative skills and enjoy being around people, we would love to put

your talents to use in the front office at Fellowship Fayetteville. We are currently seeking six volunteers for Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays to serve in four hour shifts. Contact: Ray Wagoner, 479-659-3684

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*Connect with us!*



Fellowship Fayetteville Women's Ministry | 479-659-3684  
[fayettevillewomen@fellowshipnwa.org](mailto:fayettevillewomen@fellowshipnwa.org)

*Please forward this email on to your friends and encourage them to subscribe to our monthly Women's Devotional eNewsletter. To sign up or make changes to eNewsletter subscriptions from Fellowship Fayetteville visit **[subscribe.fellowshipfayetteville.org](https://subscribe.fellowshipfayetteville.org)**.*