



Women's Devotional Newsletter | June 2018

Hope, Peace, and His Strength

There were strange noises coming out of the mailbox. Our mailbox is made out of rock. It's about shoulder height (my shoulder height), and has a nice rounded top with the actual mailbox inserted. It compliments the masonry on our home.



But on this day as I approached it, I heard that noise. It instantly brought a smile. We had new baby birds... again. There is a mama bird that has made this small rock structure her castle, her home to raise her children.

I don't know why she chose this particular structure. The only way for her to get in and out is a tiny hole (about an inch in diameter) at the bottom of one side of the box. I don't know what the actually nesting area looks like, but it has to be dark, there is no way for light to penetrate. It's probably nice and warm, maybe too warm on some days. It's a mystery why this particular bird chose this particular place to lay her eggs and raise her chicks. The babies didn't have any say where they would be hatched or nurtured.

It's a lot like us. We didn't have a choice in our home of origin or the circumstances that shaped us. Some of us may have been raised in a home full of light with worship music and the hope of Christ talked about each day. Some of us may have been raised to go to church each time the doors were open, but never spoke about God outside the church building. Some of us may have been invited to summer camp where we heard about Jesus for the first time. Some of us may have been raised in a home where our parents didn't believe there is a God.

Maybe you have known the hope of Jesus since you were young. Maybe you grew up in a dark place where you had never seen His light, or a smelly small place where the rank odors of sin and destruction were your normal. Maybe, you could glimpse His light through a tiny hole and had to fight your way to

Him – the One who is our hope.

In Romans 15, Paul is speaking to the Gentiles: *May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.* [Romans 15:13 NIV](#)

Reread this verse and let it sink in. Is your trust in Him?

Reflect and Respond

- Is there someone in your sphere of influence who needs to glimpse hope in Jesus?
- What is the worst that would happen if you stepped out in faith to love this person?

As we mature in our faith, we might sit perched on the tiny ledge looking with fear at the world. Or, we can start to spread our wings and fly, to use the gifting and life's circumstances that shaped us. We may fail multiple times. We may hit the concrete without feeling the rush of air beneath our wings, but with Jesus, we have hope. We have the Holy Spirit. With the Holy Spirit, we have the presence of our Father God at all times. We have strength that is not our own. What will you do today with His hope and strength?



Hope, Peace, and His Strength written by:

[Margo Bodishbaugh](#), Women's Team Leader and Community Team Member at Fellowship Fayetteville. Margo is happily married to Matt and has three grown daughters. One of her greatest joys is to meet with women, hear their stories, and help them find a place to use their God-given gifts. She speaks "gardening," has an acting background, and loves to use the creative arts to encourage women in their faith.

[Click here to access more devotionals on the Fellowship Women's Blog](#)

Women's Summer Studies

Sign up now for a Tuesday evening Women's Study!

Registration deadline: Sunday, June 3

Lord I Want to Know You* | [Register](#)

Tuesdays | June 5 - July 31 | 6:30-8:00pm | Fayettekids 3-6 Theater

How well do we really "know" God? By learning about His different names, we can gain a deeper understanding of who He is. This Kay Arthur study, led by Cathi Cody, will take you from knowing "about" God to a deeper personal knowledge of who He is. (*Note: This is not a precepts study; please purchase your book before the first class.)

Parenting With Grace & Salt | [Register](#)

Tuesdays | June 5 - July 31 | 6:30-8:00pm | Student Center Auditorium

Draw near to your Father and deepen your relationship with Him as you parent your children. This active class, led by Leslie Corbell, will combine personal Bible study with practical discipline tips based on *Conscious Discipline*, as well as information about child

and brain development. This study is also open to men.

Loving Your Husband Before You Even Have One

Starts June 5 | 7:00-8:30pm | Shadrach Barn

This women's study group is for engaged, single, and newly married young professional women. Join in and start the process of building an enjoyable marriage today by embracing the life God has in store for you. For more information or to **sign-up**, email [Carol Shadrach](mailto:Carol.Shadrach).

Questions? Contact fayettevillewomen@fellowshipnwa.org.

Build Community in Your Own Neighborhood!



It's finally summer and we have a few months to let down just a bit. If you aren't able to do a study this summer, we would like to suggest a book called [*The Turquoise Table*](#). A few months ago someone handed me this book, and I read it out loud to my husband on a car trip. It's an easy read, but it convicted me. It's a book that will encourage each of us to step outside our home and into our community. Take a moment to watch the video below, then pick up a book in the foyer on Sunday.

A special thank you to Shelly Davis for painting our own turquoise table in the Worship Foyer and creating tablescapes each week!



Pray for our Global Workers

Please be in prayer for the women's team going to Fortaleza, Brazil. They will be teaching the Gospel of Luke to Brazilian English language learners, sharing their stories at public high schools, and speaking at a Christian women's seminar. The women serving on this team are: Jenny Lawson, Diane Matthews, Christian Moore, Jennifer Munday, Liz Wilhelm, and Jessica Willis.

Ministry Spotlight

Ladies in Prayer (LIPS)

Women's Prayer Team

2nd Tuesday/month | 12:00-2:00pm

Fellowship Fayetteville

Join us as we meet monthly to pray
for our staff & ministries. Contacts:
[Carolyn Schmitt](#) & [Lisa Prier](#)

Discipleship | [Register](#)

Be a mentor. Be mentored.

Contacts: [Melody Couch](#), [Mary
Broglén](#), & [Diane Matthews](#)

Connect with us!



Fellowship Women's Ministry | 479-659-3684 | fayettevillewomen@fellowshipnwa.org

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