



Women's Devotional eNewsletter | May 2019

Finding the Sweetness in the Grind



The hustle. The grind. The day-to-day of “getting it done.” I hear these phrases come out of my mouth (and a lot of other women’s mouths) often. Though it’s a cultural catchphrase, we’ve almost idolized the idea of hustling with coffee in hand, and in the process, missed out on the sweetness of being purposeful within the hustle.

In the last few years of my life, there’s been so much incredible life-change -- graduating college, landing my first job, getting married, moving and transitioning into my role here at Fellowship Fayetteville. Although I felt so much purpose in each of these monumental changes, those in-between seasons left me in a state of desiring what’s next.

When we only live for the perfected and big moments of life, we miss out on how God is moving and working through us in the messy or even mundane moments of each day. Each of us has been crafted and designed to fully bloom in whatever state we find ourselves—not to lose hope for the future or become complacent, but to see the beauty of what God is doing in all moments—both in the grind and in the peace.

[Philippians 4:12-13](#) lays down some truth for those of us who struggle to see the purpose in these “in-between” moments in life stating, “I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.”

So the big question becomes, “How do we change this mentality we’ve adopted? How can I actually find joy and purpose in getting the groceries, sitting in the car line, answering yet another email and getting by on minimal sleep?”

Reflect and Respond

- Seek the relationships that are right at your fingertips. [Galatians 6:2](#) says to “carry each other’s burdens, in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” Reach out to that mom sitting next to you in the car line and see how she is doing; that coworker you intentionally pass by because you know you don’t have time -- take her out to lunch

and listen to her. Slow down and allow God to give you purpose in those busy moments.

- Allow yourself to be challenged by others. [Proverbs 27:17](#) tells us that “As iron sharpens iron, one person sharpens another.” Allow yourself to be challenged by others to live fully in each of the moments God is giving you. There is no moment so small that isn’t worthy of praise. Find someone to keep you accountable to knowing and living out that truth.
- Go beyond getting through, and instead serve through. [1 Samuel 12:24](#) reminds us, “But be sure to fear the Lord and serve him faithfully with all your heart; consider what great things he has done for you.” Each day is an opportunity to be a beacon of God’s light -- sometimes that light may be seen by many and other days only by a few -- but always by the Lord. Not giving God glory in all we do reveals a heart that doesn’t see how God can use all we do for His glory and Kingdom.

When you find yourself in the grind, pause and allow God to fully use your mundane or messy moments to be a fragrant offering to Him ([2 Corinthians 2:15](#)) -- who knows, your fragrance may just stop somebody in their tracks and allow them to discover where your true purpose comes from.

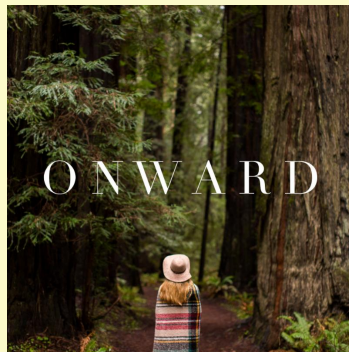
***Finding the Sweetness in the Grind* was written by Elise McCarthy**

Elise is on staff with Fellowship Fayetteville Community Ministries serving college and young adult women. She’s been married to Kyle for just over a year, and loves spending sunny weekends hiking and camping with him around the Natural State. She enjoys a good cup of coffee, laughing at animal videos, traveling internationally, and seeing young women grow to know and live more intimately with the Lord.



**If you are interested in serving with college or young adult women... leading, hosting small groups in your home, or discipling... please contact Elise at elmccarthy@fellowshipnwa.org.*

Past issues: Fayetteville Women's Devotional eNewsletter



ONWARD

A Twenty and Thirty Something Event

Monday, May 13

6:30pm - 8:30pm

Fellowship Fayetteville Student Center

Fellowship women’s ministry hosted a new event in January called ONWARD. The event, open to women in their twenties and thirties, brought nearly one-hundred women together to worship the Lord and find encouragement to move onward through their respective seasons. The vision for the event was to provide a night to care specifically for this part of the body of our congregation. No matter whether you are navigating the newness of motherhood, a career, post-graduate life, or marriage, we all need Jesus and are all on this journey together. The premier event of Onward was such a success that Fellowship will be hosting its second Onward gathering on Monday, May 13. Make plans now to join us! **To register, text #onward to 479-308-0410.**

Graduate Prayer Ring

Most of us are aware of and have possibly experienced FOMO, fear of missing out. But do any of you suffer from FOTA, fear of throwing away? Well, I have dealt with FOTA from a very early age. When our oldest son graduated from high school last year we received more graduation announcements than other years. You can imagine the turmoil I faced as I considered what to do with the announcement cards after graduation. I couldn't bring myself to throw them away! Each graduate held a special place in our family's story. Throwing them away just wasn't an option.



One of my heroes in the faith is fervent with her scripture memory and keeps her verse cards on a simple metal ring. I adopted her idea with the announcement cards and simply punched holes in each card and placed them on a ring. I then turned the cards into coffee table decor. Each Sunday night I flip to a new card. I am reminded of wonderful memories of that special graduate and begin to pray for them. I text our group family text and let them know who we are praying for that week. Then I text the graduate and their mom/parents to let them know they are our “graduate of the week”.

It has been a great experience this year for our family, allowing us to stay in touch with many loved ones during their freshman year of college. Hopefully, it has encouraged each graduate knowing that others are praying for them. May the Lord use my FOTA to bless you and your family this coming year as we begin to receive our graduates' announcements!

Summer Study for Parents

Parenting with Grace & Salt
Tuesdays | 6:30-8:30pm | Student Center
June 4 - July 30 (except June 11)
Register [HERE](#) through June 2

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 class is again open to both men and women. It will be formatted slightly different from last year's class while covering the same basic information. Childcare is available with pre-registration. Questions? Contact Leslie at fayettevillewomen@fellowshipnwa.org.

Getting Married?

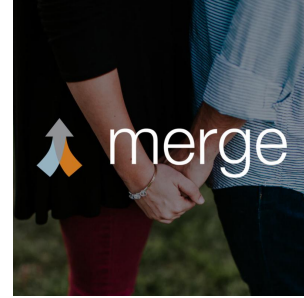
MERGE Premarital Workshops

MERGE is an 8-week, premarital experience offered each year in the Spring, Summer, and Fall, only on the Fellowship Fayetteville campus. These workshops are designed to provide

engaged and seriously dating couples a unique opportunity to learn, seek wisdom, and receive counsel on marriage from a Biblical perspective. Cost is \$85 per couple and space is limited. Signup early and be sure to fill out and submit the required online survey.

Summer Session: July 7 - August 25, 2019

Register [HERE](#) for the Summer Session
Registration closes Sunday, June 30



Fall Session: September 29 - November 17, 2019

Register [HERE](#) for the Fall Session
Registration closes Sunday, September 22

Discipleship



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. Visit our webpage to fill out the online assessment

Need training to become a Discipler? No problem! Our next Women's Discipleship Training will be held June 2, 9, and 23 in the FSM Conference Room 199. Click [HERE](#) to register.

Service Opportunities

A Call to Action in FayetteKids Early Childhood Ministry

Many of our workers are college students who are now in the process of leaving to return home until fall, and adult leaders who will be taking part of the summer off to vacation with their families. This annual summertime exodus creates an immediate need for Small Group Leaders for Infant through Pre-K. Leading in a classroom gives you the opportunity to invest in the lives of young children and to help them grow in their faith in Jesus. For most of the children, this is their first time interacting in activities, God's word, and worship; come be a part of what God is doing in FayetteKids! Would you consider leading a small group in Early Childhood during the 9:00am or 10:30am service? Click [HERE](#) and select Small Group Leader under Early Childhood to sign up today!



Weekday Front Office Help

If you have administrative skills and enjoy being around people, we would love to put your talents to use as a member of our front office team at Fellowship Fayetteville. We are currently seeking front desk volunteers to commit to serving weekly or rotating twice a month - your choice of a four hour shift on Mondays, Wednesdays or Fridays. Contact: [Ray Wagoner](#), 479-659-3615 or [Vicki Kennedy](#), 479-659-3684.

Women's Ministry Team



MARGO BODISHBAUGH
Shepherding Leader



MELODY COUCH
Discipleship Leader



LORIE MCMILLEN
Tuesday Evening Studies



MARY BETH SIMPSON
Tuesday Morning Studies

Want to learn more about Fayetteville Women's Ministry?
Reach out to one of our team members to learn how you can get plugged in!
fayettevillewomen@fellowshipnwa.org
479-659-3684

Connect with us!



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