

# WOMEN'S MINISTRY

## fayetteville

May 2020

All Fellowship Fayetteville congregational services remain temporarily suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Updates can be found [HERE](#). Links to online services and other specific resources can be found below.

For pastoral care and encouragement  
available daily 9:00am - 9:00pm call (479) 878-2980.

## Questions ... and the Answer

by Lorie McMillen

As the hours turn into days, the days turn into weeks, and the weeks turn into months, we are seemingly caught in a never-ending hourglass amidst the chaos of questions and uncertainty. When will this COVID-19 (something we had never even heard of before a few short months ago) crisis end? When will life return to "normal"? When can we gather together in church and other large groups again? Will they discover a vaccine or treatment soon? How am I supposed to teach my children (side note—why do they keep coming up with NEW ways to do math?!?!), work from home, *and* keep my sanity all at the same time?! When can I visit my hair salon again?! And the questions go on and on.....



But we are not alone in this fight, or in our pain, or even in our inconveniences of these days. As we just celebrated Easter Sunday and have been reminded of what real suffering looks like, we can also rest assured that the One who endured that pain and suffering on our behalf continues to feel our pain, hurt when we hurt, and weep when we weep. [John 11:35 NIV](#) tells us that "Jesus wept" when He was here on this earth with us, and as He hung dying on the cross, He cried, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they are doing." [Luke 23:34 NIV](#). He was here with us then, He is here with us now, and, yes, He does care.

There are many questions in our hearts and minds that we just do not have answers for right now; but, as is the answer to every good Sunday School question, the answer to this and every question we have right now is....Jesus! He knows the answers; He knows the outcome; and we CAN TRUST HIM! Although I wrote the following poem several years ago, it seems to me that the message fits well with the circumstances in which we find ourselves today. I pray that it speaks to your heart and reminds you that we are never alone, and God wants to carry this and every burden for us. [Matthew 11:28 NIV](#) says "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest!"

## *Reflect and Respond*

### **OUR FATHER CRIES**

*By Lorie McMillen*

The Lord above sends His love  
From heaven to us each day.  
Sometimes He gives; sometimes He's still;  
And sometimes He takes away.

But when those times of heartache come,  
On this we can rely.  
The Lord above who sends His love  
Is with us when we cry.

He gives us strength to carry on  
When we just don't know how.  
He holds us close and gives us peace  
When before Him we humbly bow.

This world we're in can be so hard,  
And life just isn't fair.  
But the Lord above who sends His love  
Goes with us, and He cares.

So focus now upon that cross,  
Where Christ our Savior died.  
And know that then, and once again,  
Our Father also cries.



#### ***Questions... and the Answer* was written by Lorie McMillen**

Lorie serves on the Fellowship Fayetteville staff as the Evening Women's Bible Study Coordinator, and also volunteers as a Women's Community Group Coach. In addition, she works part-time as an Academic Advisor for Northwest Arkansas Community College. She and her husband Mike host a community group in their home, have three daughters, four granddaughters, and one grandson. They are natives of Iowa and have made Northwest Arkansas their home for four years now. In their leisure, you can find them spending time with

friends and family and enjoying their boat on Beaver Lake.

*\*If you would like to join an evening women's study this summer, contact Lorie at [lomcmillen@fellowshipnwa.org](mailto:lomcmillen@fellowshipnwa.org).*

*Past issues: Fayetteville Women's Devotional  
eNewsletter*

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## Tuesday evenings this summer . . .

### Book Club #1

***When I Lay My Isaac Down:***

***Unshakable Faith in Unthinkable Circumstances***

**June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 | 6:30-8:00pm**

**Facilitators: Individual Small Group Leaders**

This book outlines eight transformational power principles

that Gene and Carol Kent learned in the process of facing the news that their twenty-five-year-old son, a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy with an impeccable military record, had shot and killed his wife's ex-husband. The principles the Kents learned in the process of surviving unspeakable circumstances will bolster your faith, renew your hope, and challenge you to new levels of personal spiritual commitment. Come join us as we read about Carol's "Isaac experience", which will help us face our own. **\*Please have on hand the book (not the workbook) prior to start date.**



### Book Club #2

#### ***Pilgrim's Progress***

**June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 | 7:00-8:30pm**

**Facilitator: Heather Walker**

Many consider *Pilgrim's Progress* one of the most influential books in history. Other than the Bible, it has been read by more people than any other book in the English language. What is it about this book, written from a prison cell over 300 years ago, that has inspired so many? Come travel with Christian as he encounters obstacles and meets unforgettable characters on his way to the Celestial City. Along the way, you are bound to recognize that his journey is very much like our own. **\*Please try to obtain the most recent edition of this book prior to start date.**

### Study

#### ***Parenting with Grace & Salt***

**June 2, 9, 16, 23 | 6:00pm - 7:30pm**

**\*This class is open to both men and women**

**Facilitator: Leslie Corbell**

What would it look like if we could rejoice, pray, and give thanks in all circumstances--even the most challenging parenting moments? In this summer class, we will examine how the discipline of our children begins with our own self-discipline, a fruit of the Spirit. The class, led by Leslie Corbell, seeks to encourage parents in their spiritual walk and strengthen parenting practices. It will include weekly Scripture readings, as well as practical discipline tips based on Conscious Discipline. There will be time included at the end of each class for questions and application of information.

**\*\*Class formats and locations will be determined closer to the start date, and will be dependent upon current COVID-19 guidelines.**

**Registrations are set to open May 8 and will be available at [www.fellowshipnwa.org/eventsandclasses](http://www.fellowshipnwa.org/eventsandclasses).**

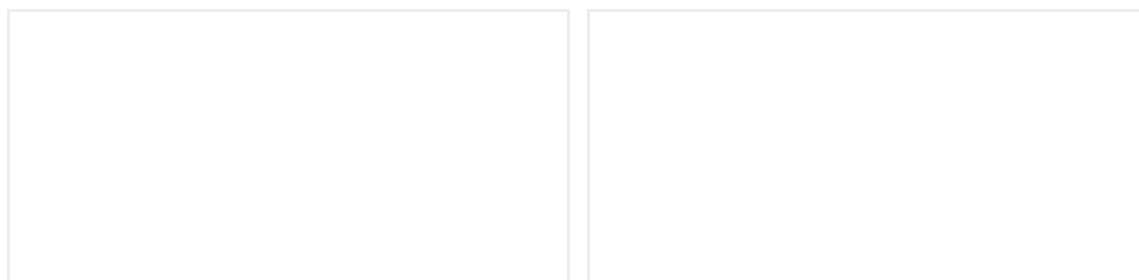
**For questions or to register for a class: email [fayettevillewomen@fellowshipnwa.org](mailto:fayettevillewomen@fellowshipnwa.org).**

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## Making the best of challenging times . . .

Last month we asked our readers to share stories or photos of how they are spending time with family and friends during this coronavirus global pandemic. Thank you for your submissions! Here are a couple of our favorites...



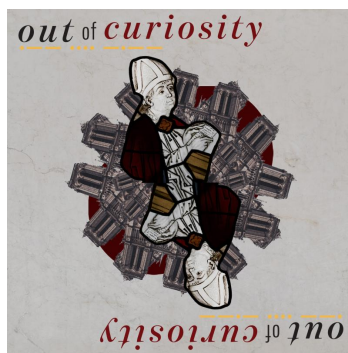


**Submitted by Jennifer Bricker:** Jennifer and husband Ben have found themselves super busy during the pandemic, maybe even a little busier than normal. Like so many parents, both are trying to balance working full-time from home, while at the same time being thrust into the role of homeschool teachers for their kids Eleanor, 5 and Ian, 7. They've even been able to continue watching Fellowship services online... *and* make it fun too. Who doesn't love a home-made, indoor tent, right!?!



**Submitted by Debbie "Dobba" Wagoner (with husband Darrell):** Debbie says, "Even though we haven't hugged our grandkids in way too many days... even though we are isolated... we have each other, and the love shown to us by our neighbors and our children - grocery shopping - errands run - encouraging phone calls and funny memes... we are so thankful!" And might I add, cute to boot! Thanks for sharing, Debbie!

## Resources while at home . . .



### [Out of Curiosity](#)

Are you curious about the Bible? Do you have questions about faith and Christianity but aren't sure whom to ask? Then check out Fellowship's podcast called *Out of Curiosity: Biblical Clarity for Modern Questions*.

Additional Fellowship Fayetteville podcasts, videos, at-home resources, family devotionals, playlists, and resources for the current church-wide study *Clarity* can be found [HERE](#).

### [RightNow Media](#) -

RightNow Media's mission is to work with the global church to inspire people to love others before self and Christ above all. RightNow, often referred to as the Netflix of Christian Bible Studies, offers a streaming library of Bible Study videos for individuals and groups of all ages, as well as children's shows, family devotionals, and Easter studies. Choose from a wide range of contributors including Francis Chan, Jennie Allen, Kyle Idleman, Henry Cloud, Dr. Tony Evans, Ann Voskamp, Max Lucado and Kay Arthur.



## Other Fellowship Fayetteville Resources



### [Church at Home Family Resources](#)

Includes FayetteKids and Student Ministries

### [Church-wide Classes and Events](#)

### [Care and Counseling](#)

### [Celebrate Recovery](#)

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Questions? Contact us at [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](http://subscribe.fellowshipfayetteville.org).*