

June 2019

### Dig Deeper Still

Do I tell the truth? I had to ask myself that question not long ago after I posted a picture of a gorgeous purple clematis from my backyard. The caption read, "Spring." On the surface that seemed like a perfectly normal, fun post. It's what I *didn't* say in the caption that would have told so much more. "Spring" didn't tell the whole story. What I didn't say was that those flowers held deeper meanings for me. The vine grows on a wire frame structure that looks a bit like a miniature old-time baby carriage. I bought it twenty years ago not long after I had experienced a miscarriage.

A wise woman counseled me that it would be a good idea to get a symbol of some kind in remembrance of the baby. My friends knew I was grieving so they reached out to try to get



me out of the house. While we were shopping at a local flea market I found the carriage, and it just seemed to fit. For years I placed potted plants in it on our porch. Later when we moved to a different house I used it to support the climbing clematis vine. Since that time, when those flowers bloom, what I "don't say" is they remind me of that time when I lost a precious little one; they remind me of the family and friends that supported me when I was at my lowest; they remind me of new beginnings and God's promises to me; and they bring me joy. Joy in our Creator. Joy in the strength of family and friendships. Joy that God had... and *has...* a perfect plan for you and for me. Scripture, the Word of God, the love of family and friends... it all carried me through that valley.

I encourage you to dig deeper in Scripture. Read it again. Memorize it. As we read passages over and over throughout our lives they become a part of how we act, how we think, and ultimately who we are. Scripture is God-breathed. It is alive. It can transform and renew our minds. It is worth digging into again and again.

*"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."* <u>2 Timothy 3:16-17</u>

"For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart." <u>Hebrews 4:12</u>

"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will." <u>Romans 12:2</u>

Also, I encourage you to get curious with your friends and family. Dig a little. When you ask them how things are going and they answer "okay", dig deeper and ask them what being okay means to them.

When asked what is the greatest commandment, Jesus answered: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these." <u>Mark 12:30-31</u>

So, do I tell the truth when I post a beautiful creation from our Creator that has multiple layers of meaning to me? God knows.

#### **Reflect and Respond**

- What Scripture has jumped out of the page at you lately? Will you share that with someone?
- Who has the Holy Spirit put on your mind to reach out to? Will you reach out?



**Dig Deeper Still was written by Margo Bodishbaugh -**<u>Margo Bodishbaugh</u>, is the Women's Shepherding Leader 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.

Past issues: Fayetteville Women's Devotional eNewsletter

#### Save the Date! Women's Retreat: *Enough*

Friday-Saturday, September 27-28 | New Life Ranch

**Registration opens August 1!** 

#### Summer Study for Parents

It's not too late to sign up for Parenting with Grace & Salt Tuesdays | 6:30-8:30pm | FSM Student Center June 4 - July 30 (except June 11) Signup through June 18

(childcare registration is <u>now closed</u>)

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 registration is now closed. For questions or to sign up email

#### fayettevillewomen@fellowshipnwa.org.

# Pray for Brazil

Pray for a team of women traveling from Fellowship to Fortaleza, Brazil, June 7 through the 16. Pray for safety, health, and for the Brazilians who have signed up for the Bible study classes to attend and experience life-change.

## 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 <u>HERE</u> for the Summer Session Registration closes Sunday, June 30

**Fall Session: September 29 - November 17, 2019** Register <u>HERE</u> 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 is being offered now: June 9 and 23 in the FSM Conference Room 199. **Click <u>HERE</u> to register.** 

### Service Opportunity

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

your talents to use as a member of our front office volunteer 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: <u>Ray Wagoner</u>, 479-659-3615 or <u>Vicki Kennedy</u>, 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! <u>fayettevillewomen@fellowshipnwa.org</u> 479-659-3684

Connect with us!



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