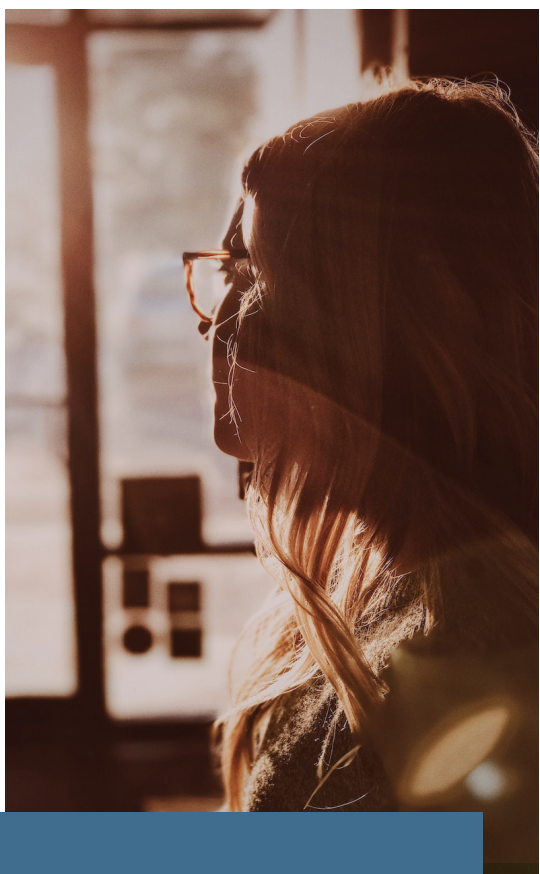


# Women's Ministry Newsletter



JANUARY 2022



## January Challenge

Create space and take time to be still, reflect, and journal.

Listen to what God is saying to you through these scriptures.

## Biblical Resolutions

by Virginia Saunders

As we prepare for the New Year, many of us are trying to decide what New Year's resolutions we will make. As I have grown older and wiser, I realize that the ones I set, I immediately break!

There are resolutions given to us in the Bible that we should look at and as we do them they become a part of our Christian life and focus. Resolutions can be a tool to our spiritual growth. Here are just a few things we might want to focus on in the year 2022 and they come from God himself.

### #1. Resolve to live with eternity in mind.

#### Colossians 3:1-2

"Seek the things that are above" is to live in anticipation of eternity. Renewing your mind to see through God's eternal perspective will help you discern what is most important.

### #2. Resolve to love one another.

#### John 13:34-35

"Love one another as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

### #3. Resolve to forgive one another.

#### Ephesians 4:32

"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

### #4. Resolve to spread the Gospel.

#### Matthew 28:19

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit."

### #5. Resolve to grow in Jesus Christ.

#### 2 Peter 3:18

"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen."

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## Why Mentoring?

by Amy Davis

At the age of 12, the Lord started something in my life.

I had just met Jesus, was entering middle school (on the edge of puberty) and needed someone to walk with me into uncharted territory. Someone to come alongside. Someone to listen. Someone who had been there. Someone with wisdom, Someone who loved Jesus and had been walking with Him awhile. A woman. Kibbie.

The Lord has been faithful in my life to provide a long list of women, all along the way, who have walked with me. Discipled me. Loved me. Modeled for me what being a godly woman, wife, mother, and friend looked like in real life. The good, the bad and the glorious!

These women understood and were obedient to the biblical mandate (Titus 2:3-5) to mentor. If you were to ask them:

- » Did they feel worthy?
- » Did they feel they had anything to offer?
- » Did they have all the answers?

They would have definitely said, "NO!" But they did love younger women and have a desire to be available, to be life-giving, and to make disciples.

This idea of mentoring isn't man-made or just another good idea for Christians. It's something we see in many of the one-on-one relationships sprinkled throughout scripture.\*

For example, take a look at the relationship between Mary and Elizabeth, as portrayed in the first chapter of Luke. These two women made themselves available to one another for relationship during a very exciting and challenging time in their lives. This close relationship between these two biblical women, one young and one a bit older, prompts us to consider a few characteristics to look for when considering a mentor/mentee relationship with another woman:

Elizabeth was a step ahead of Mary in her own journey. She shared common experiences with Mary and understood Mary. Elizabeth encouraged Mary to walk in obedience and she modeled Spirit-filled living in the face of unfamiliar territory.

Mary was a good mentee in her relationship with Elizabeth because she took initiative and pursued Elizabeth. She was humble and teachable and wanted God's will for her life more than anything. Mary also gave Elizabeth the commitment of time together.

How marvelous for both Mary and Elizabeth to walk alongside one another during such a miraculous, yet terrifying season of life. Don't we all need relationships like this in our lives?

If you haven't figured it out yet, I am kind of passionate about this. I see the immense value that having relationship with those who have gone before me has added to my own life. I have also had the honor of walking with multiple women who are blazing their own trail after me. I can't help but get excited!

You may be thinking, "I would really like to have a relationship like that with another woman, But where do I start?"

**On Wednesday nights starting on February 16,** you are invited to come together with other women at FPC Rome and learn more about mentoring. You'll learn more about what mentoring can look like, hear from women who are engaged in mentoring relationships, and feel better equipped with a few tools and resources. And, to answer that little voice in your head, you won't be signing up for a new program or making a commitment to be a mentor or mentee.

We hope you will come and engage with His word and His women. See what is possible for your own life and for the lives of other women, as we grow in understanding and confidence around one-on-one discipleship.

*\*To find out more about the mentoring relationships found in Scripture, check out "The Greatest Mentors in the Bible" by Tim Elmore.*





## Blessed Celebration: The Greatest Gift

If you attended the Women's Ministry event, The Blessed Celebration, "The Greatest Gift," hopefully you came away renewed in your desire to share our greatest gift, Jesus, with others.

Our special guests that night, teen moms from Young Lives all received gifts pointing to Jesus; a child friendly nativity set, a copy of the Jesus Storybook Bible and a warm blanket, symbolic of the love Jesus lovingly enfolded us as His children.

It was a wonderful evening bringing us back to God's word, it is truly more blessed to give than to receive. It was also a time to reflect on our relationship with Jesus, our Savior.



## Christ & Culture Discipleship Forum 2022

As members of the body of Christ, we have unique opportunities for evangelism, service, and discipleship both within the church and without. Last year we strove to think rightly, but now it is time to act rightly. Every Wednesday night in January, we will journey through practical applications of the Gospel that cause us to be tactically mobile and strategically impactful in our homes, our church, and with unbelievers.

Guest speakers Dr. Brian Salter, Dr. Scott Sauls, and Dr. Stephen Nichols will both challenge and encourage us to act rightly in every aspect of our lives.

## New Member Spotlight

### Jessica Baker

I am wife to David and Mom to Gray (9) and Emmi (6). I am from Rome and actually worked in the student ministry at FPC in 2008. My husband and I moved away after we got married in 2010 and we all just moved back this past May. I do personal and small group fitness coaching out of my home and just got my license as a body image, faith, and leadership coach. We are so thankful to be back here!

### Linda Easterwood

I am originally from Washington State. My hobbies are genealogy and quilting for my family. Mark and I have been married for 36 years, we have 2 sons — Brian, lives in WA and Daniel lives with us here in Rome.

### Isabelle (Izzy) Goninan

I am a freshman at Berry. I moved in over the summer as a part of the Gate Scholarship program, and I have been church hopping since then. God started working on my heart when my mom passed away as an 11-year-old, drawing me to Him, and truly saved me when I was 14. He has loved me well throughout my life so now my heart's desire is for Him. I first visited FPC in October, and felt overjoyed there. I so value the expository sermons, worship songs, liturgical structure of the service, etc. Most of all, I have been overwhelmed by the kindness of people at FPC. I feel confident that it is a place that God is working and where I can both be poured into and pour out, which is what I am hoping for, especially now in this incredible yet overwhelming college season!

## 2022 Bible Studies

### CONTINUING STUDIES

- » Isaiah - Amanda Davidson - resumes Jan. 4  
Tuesdays at 8:00 AM (Van Dyke Room)  
Tuesdays at 1:30 PM (Hardy Classroom #1)
- » David - Anita Smith & Barbara Allen - resumes Jan. 10  
2nd Monday of every month at 10:00 AM (CLC #203)
- » Women of the Bible - Mary Holcomb - resumes Jan. 10  
2nd Monday of every month at 6:30 PM (Fellowship Hall)

### NEW STUDIES

- » Jonah - Joan Brock - begins Jan. 10  
Mondays at 9:15 AM (Hardy Classroom #1)
- » Psalms - Stacy Pardue & Kattera Cochran - begins Feb. 9  
Wednesday Nights (Location TBD)
- » Mentoring - Amy Davis & Mandy Williams - begins Feb. 16  
Wednesday Nights (Location TBD)



## January Birthdays

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						Holly Shadday Charlotte Roberts
2	3 Lynne Griffin Cheryl Matthews	4 Maggie Cooper	5 Jessica Gregory	6 Jan Paulling Jenni Glover	7	8 Ashley Banks
9	10 Linda Moore	11	12	13	14 Madeleine Williams	15 Jacquelyn Shadday
16 Lynn Pittman Kim Groux Mary Jo Harvey Carol Hatcher	17 Hallie Reese	18 M.E. Rebello Chandler Holcombe	19 Karen Johnson Marcia Abernathy Ginger Wright Adlynn Keith	20 	21 Kinslee Clevenger	22
23 Tammy Johnson Lynn Hosea 30 Leslie Miller Sally Echols	24 Cathe Atha 31 Kitty Arp Dinky Hanks	25 Melissa Phillips Jessica Baker	26 Abigail Seitz	27 Laureen Gilbert	28 Dottie Hall	29 Suzanne Barksdale

### Upcoming Events

#### Women's Retreat

March 25 - 26 at Camp Skyline  
More details to come...

*"Sing to the Lord  
a new song, for he  
has done marvelous  
things..."*  
Psalm 98:1a

### Thank You

to all who came to decorate  
the church for Christmas!

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