



Tri-City Baptist
Church Ministries

Relationships • Discipleship • Truth

Ladies Ministry Newsletter

Hearts that Share — Hands that Serve

Winter 2011

THE BEGGAR'S SECRET TREASURE

A blind, old beggar was walking the city streets. His only possessions were two tattered, large shopping bags. A woman, moved with compassion for him, watched him sit down on a curb. She bought him a cup of coffee, and crossed the street to give it to him. As they engaged in conversation about his life and troubles, she gained his confidence and asked, "Do you mind telling me what is in your bags?" He answered, "I'm not sure anymore. But, you can look if you like." Opening the bags she discovered, in tightly wrapped bundles, thousands and thousands of dollars. He was rich and didn't know it. He was rich and wandered the streets as a pauper, instead of living as a prince.

How many times have we been just like that blind man? I know I have been. God has given us everything we

need in His Word to live confidently and joyfully and yet, we wander the streets empty and hungry. Our riches sit nicely on the nightstand or fit snugly under our arms in church, but we do not open our hearts and minds to the great gifts God has for us.

One of those riches is Psalm 119. I wondered how David could write so much about the Law. He did not have the New Testament or much of the Old. Yet, he wrote, "Oh, how I love thy law!" (vs. 97) My adventure began there. I wanted to know what David saw in God's commands that I was not seeing.

As I searched, I discovered the theme of "what the Word of God does for us and to us". Verse by verse the list began to grow. God's Word: keeps us blameless, is our counselor, causes us to be faithful, gives strength, brings

understanding, affects my self talk, fills my heart with songs, teaches us good discernment and knowledge, revives us—creating new passions, causes us to trust God, enlarges our hearts—making room for Someone to dwell there, produces reverence for God, and has many, many other truths for us to treasure.

Several pages later, the list totaled 97 different ways His Word affects us! What a treasure trove! How often we struggle in life while we have the riches of Scripture just inches from our fingertips. We wander the streets blindly begging bread instead of enjoying the good gifts God wants to give us in His Word. May we cry out with David, "Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law" (Ps. 119:18). ~Marcia Gammon

Join Us for Fellowship and Fun...All We Need is You!

Ladies Night Out Christmas Party — Make your favorite Christmas cookies and join us for a cookie exchange and craft. Thursday, December 1, 6:30 - 9 p.m. Refreshments supplied, but please sign-up so we can plan accordingly.

Annual TBC Ladies Brunch — With a twist. Unpack those old (or new) wedding gowns, bridesmaid gowns, homecoming dresses and put them on the most qualified model to show your friends. Will we say "yes" to the dress? You'll be blessed by a spiritual challenge; enjoy fellowship and a fashion show. Invite a friend and bring a dish to share in this delicious brunch. Saturday, February 25, 10 a.m. to noon. Cost \$5 per person.

Mark your calendar for the Ladies Retreat — April 27-28, 2012 at the beautiful Embassy Suites Phoenix-Biltmore. Plan to be encouraged, challenged and make friends. End the retreat with an afternoon of lunch and shopping at the Biltmore Fashion Park. Suites will accommodate up to four ladies at \$50 per person.



Highlight from the October Ladies Conference

Speaker, Dr. Nell Collins, encouraged us to renew our minds (Eph. 4:23) in the following way: Read 9-10 verses of scripture; Study by asking what does this passage teach; Meditate by asking how should I change my thinking, behavior or speech; Pray back to God what He has taught you (with thanksgiving and petition); Apply the lesson to your life immediately — She also reminded us if we know how to worry, we know how to meditate. It simply means we think about the passage from all angles and think about what it means to apply it to our lives. Have you ruminated on a passage today? If not, why not?

BECOMING A MOM WHO IS CONSISTENT

"Please put your shoes on before we leave to the store," I said to one of my kids as I loaded the bags into the van. My request was met with a burst of tears, an angry exit, and a return with another sibling's flip-flops in hand. "Fine, just wear those," I said.

What would you say to your child? Might you say, "Not a big deal" or "Let him wear them since he walks fine in them" or "How cute, she wants to be like sissy" or "We're just going to the store" or "I'm being so kind by them wear those shoes"?

I should have corrected the disobedience but I put it aside and used the excuse – "I'm picking my battles today." When my child selfishly reacted to my instructions, I should have corrected the behavior even though it was inconvenient for me. God challenged me to compare the famous phrase with His Word.

The phrase — "I'm picking my battles today" — shows that a parent or teacher chooses the sin he or she will deal with, whether big or small. The Bible says, "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right (Eph. 6:1). "... Bring up your child in the fear of the Lord" (Eph. 6:4b).

By dismissing the disobedience, I showed my child that pleasing and honoring God was not a priority. My actions supported the fact that during the time of the offense I did not value their obedience as much as my convenience. I acted as a parent serving an ordinary God instead of an extraordinary God.

I trust that with God's help I will no longer opt for the excuse, "I am picking my battles today." I pray that my child's response becomes "Yes, mommy. I will obey right away, all the way, and with a happy heart!" ~ Tricia Brown



Ministry Opportunity — If you would like to help with set-up, clean up or hospitality at a ladies event please contact Denise Glenn at deniseglenn6@gmail.com or 480-643-0679.

Preparation for Parenting

Tuesday afternoons from 2 - 3 p.m. starting September 13th, \$16

Tricia Brown, 480-219-8419 or paulandtriciabrown@yahoo.com



If you, and your children, would like to join Tricia Brown and others for a "Ladies Play Group," please call Tricia at (480) 703-2070 for more information

Philippians In & Out Precept Bible Study

Thursday mornings from 8:15 - 10 a.m. starting September 15th, \$28

Denise Glenn, 480-643-0679 or deniseglenn6@gmail.com

Ezra & Haggai Precept Upon Precept Bible Study

Tuesday mornings from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. starting September 13th, \$15

Paula Mostrom, 480-897-7373 or paulamostrom@cox.net

Fingerprints of God

Wednesday evenings from 6:15 - 7:30 p.m. starting October 5th, \$10

Elma Sproul, 480-245-7962 or elma.sproul@tricityministries.org

Recommended Reading:

Respectable Sins by Jerry Bridges, NavPress, 2007.
Shepherding a Child's Heart by Tedd Tripp, Shepherd Press, 1998.
Instructing a Child's Heart by Tedd & Margy Tripp, Shepherd Press.

TRI-CITY BAPTIST CHURCH

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