

LIVES OF FRAGRANCE

SEPTEMBER 2022/ Vol. 1 Issue 3

2 Corinthians 4:14-17

As reflected on a daily basis, living requires a vast array of skills and knowledge. We learn certain basic life skills during infancy and toddlerhood; we continue to acquire and deepen further abilities throughout life. Similarly, in our Christian life, we pass through phases of learning and growth. God desires our spiritual growth and maturity, and the Bible gives us many examples of mature Christians discipling younger believers.

In this issue, Linda Cosgrove discusses the Women's Discipleship ministry of Tulsa Bible Church. Linda has had an active ministry of discipling and mentoring women for a number of years. This is a vitally important aspect of Women's Ministry at TBC.

FOCUS ON DISCIPLESHIP

By Linda Cosgrove

The word disciple is a great word. It basically means to be a follower of, or learner from, another. Not many of us want to follow; we want to lead. That was certainly true of me before Christ changed my life. I plunged along from one mess to another. BUT GOD was not done with me, and in His merciful grace, He rescued me out of the muck of my hell-bent sinful self and brought me to repentance and saving faith in Christ alone.

Now, it is one of my greatest joys to come alongside a younger woman to help her grow in knowing her Lord Jesus Christ and to love Him more. Our goal certainly is to bring glory to God in every aspect of our lives. The Apostle Paul encapsulates it perfectly in Philippians 1:21: "For me to live is Christ and to die is gain." The target for change is our heart; the tools used are God's Word, the Gospel, the Holy Spirit, and prayer. The attitude is love. This is God's work and the results are in His capable hands.

One woman's testimony paints the picture well. "A woman who had experienced much more of life than I, with much more wisdom than I, came to administer the healing of God's Word. She came to me. Let me be clear, I could barely walk out to the mailbox, let alone go somewhere for help. She came to me. She still comes. Discipleship is the way God wanted to administer His grace, love, and truth to me. Discipleship requires relationship. I am learning. I am growing. I am finding joy in Christ."

It is a joy beyond words to follow Jesus together. If you would like to be discipled or trained to be a discipler, please call or email me. My contact information is in the TBC directory.



Disciple
(di-'sī-pel)

CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

Women's Bible Studies begin in September. Registration may be completed online or in the foyer before or after the service. Information for book purchase is available online or at the Bible study table in the foyer.

The 2022 TBC Women's Retreat will be held September 9th and 10th, with attendance and pricing options. Pick up a flyer for more information and another flyer to share with a friend! Register online or in the foyer at the Retreat table. Prepare to worship, learn, fellowship, and relax! Registration closes September 5th.

OCTOBER

The activity of trick-or-treating provides an outstanding opportunity for you to interact with neighbors; accordingly, for the October edition of Lives of Fragrance, we invite you to submit your suggestions for ways to witness to trick-or-treaters and their families. Please submit your suggestions by September 18th, using the email address at the bottom of the newsletter. Thank you!

DINNER RECIPE

Debbie Breeden recommends this as a good meal which is easy to prepare, and she assures us that it is a crowd-pleaser! It serves over eight people.

Bowtie Pasta

From Debbie Breeden

Place in crockpot (high setting):

- Raw chicken, 1-2 lbs.
- 1 package dry Italian seasoning
- 1 can chicken broth (14.5 oz)

Cook until the chicken can be shredded (6-8 hours), then add to crockpot:

- Bowtie pasta (16-oz box), cook according to package directions before adding to crockpot.
- 8 oz. cream cheese
- Cream of chicken soup, large can (22.6 oz)
- Bacon pieces (optional)

Cook another 30 minutes or until cream cheese has melted and flavors are blended.

This can be served with a fresh salad or a cooked vegetable.

AND...DESSERT

Chigger McPherson provides the recipe for this deliciously rich chocolate dessert.

Mis'sippi Mud Cake

From Chigger McPherson

Batter:

- 2 c. sugar
- 2 T cocoa
- 2 sticks margarine
- 4 eggs
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1 ½ c. flour
- 1 c. flaked coconut
- 1 ½ c. nuts

Topping:

- 7-oz jar marshmallow creme

Frosting:

- 1 box powdered sugar (about 3 ½ c.)
- 1 stick margarine
- ½ c. evaporated milk

Cream sugar, cocoa, and margarine; add slightly beaten eggs and vanilla. Mix well. Add flour, coconut, and nuts; beat two minutes. Bake in greased and floured 9 x 13 pan at 350 for 35 minutes.

When the cake is done and still hot, spread one 7-ounce jar of marshmallow cream over the top of the cake. When the cake is cold, frost with the following. Mix in a bowl: powdered sugar, margarine, evaporated milk, cocoa, and vanilla.

Flexibility With Accountability

By Chigger McPherson

My spiritual gift is exhortation. This is how I approached organizing myself and giving structure to my family. We had a saying in our home, "Flexibility with accountability, so listen to the Lord."

We were accountable to God in the morning to spend time with Him. (Psalm 91)

I had my list, sometimes lists, of things to do, but I knew that when God prompted me to do something else, I had to be flexible to do His will and good pleasure, which meant that the list was no longer the priority. We are here to please Him first.

My relationship and focus had to be on God first. If I did not put this first, my lists and work would make me miserable and anxious, especially if I did not accomplish what I deemed necessary to get done.

God's Listening Ear

By Karen Krueger

When our older son was four, we were visiting in a friend's home. Another visitor was also there, and our son wanted to impart some vitally important information to this man. He knelt next to him on the sofa, held his little hands up to cup and gently pull on the man's earlobe, then earnestly whispered into that waiting ear for several minutes.

It was a delightful moment. Our son was sincere in wanting to tell this man something that was of importance to him as a four-year-old. The man whom he chose for his confidence was not a person who related well to children; he was, in fact, nervous around children. Yet in his innocence, our son had chosen this gentleman to be the recipient of his secret, and simply trusted that the man would be interested.

Do we have the same confidence when we bring our thoughts and prayers to God? Do we have an unwavering trust in His love and interest? Do we know that He loves us more deeply than we can understand, and that He knows our petitions before we ask them of Him?

When we understand more clearly that God yearns for us to meet Him in prayer, we will become emboldened to run to God, to nestle closely to Him, and to softly whisper each of our prayers and petitions, knowing with deepest assurance that our Father hears us, that His love is all-encompassing, and that His plans for us are better than any plan that we can contrive or imagine. The Christian is God's child, His precious one, accepted in the beloved; our Father desires our ultimate good, which is to be transformed into the image of Christ.

I John 5.14 (ESV) states, "And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us."

WORD SCRAMBLE

Each of the scrambled words below may be found in the first twenty verses of Psalm 119 (ESV), which can be consulted for the answers.

sedlebs _____

thoriguse _____

creppet _____

dentcommsamn _____

tustetas _____

awl _____

glideth _____

runjosero _____

timetade _____

flibutulony _____

thera _____

mistiesnote _____

Lives of Fragrance is a publication of the Women's Ministries of Tulsa Bible Church. For questions, corrections, or comments, please contact fnewsandviews@gmail.com.

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