



Welcome to Women's Bible Study

A Ministry of Autumn Ridge Church

Wednesday, September 30, 2009

Today's lecture by Michelle Harris from 1 Samuel 21-24 is titled:

What's In The Heart: A Heart of Honor

As a courtesy to others, please silence your cell phone as you enter Bible study.

Dear Friends,

So far David's heart has been looking pretty good...he's shown courage under fear, friendship of the deepest sort, and this week, honor in the face of ill treatment. I love the fact that David is very nuanced. He's not perfect (as Joseph sometimes seemed), and we watch him make mistakes and learn from them.

Yet there is much to admire, and in this week's passage (1 Samuel 20-24) it's fascinating to watch how his early missteps grow into a true sense of leadership. Honor, which could be defined as "the quality of honesty and integrity", is something very necessary in a leader. Even at later, lower points of David's life, we see his heart of honor returning at crucial points in his leadership.

I hope that in this past week you took a few moments to reflect on your friendships and to give thanks for those people who pour grace and joy into your life. In her lecture on "A Heart of Friendship" Jann reminded us last week that friendships are strongest which are founded on a mutual view of God, like David and Jonathan's. When I arrived here in 1989 one of my dearest friends was a woman about 25 years older than me, Sharon Baker. She had been teaching the Bible study before I moved to Minnesota and we met together for prayer most weeks during my first few years. Sadly, Sharon's ovarian cancer recurred and she died in 1993, leaving a great gap in my life. We had little in common except a sense of humor and a passion for Bible study, yet this friend taught me a great deal about life and leadership. Look around you – there may be someone in your small group who will become your heart's friend during this year.

Warmly, Gretchen Steer

- **We're so glad** that you are here today! Fellowship time for WBS begins at 9:15 AM with worship at 9:30. After this will be our teaching lecture followed by small group time.

If you have children, please pick them up promptly after small group. You are welcome to stay and visit with friends for as long as you wish after you pick them up from childcare. Thank You!

- **Name Tags:** Please wear your permanent name tags, and plan to wear them every week, so that we can get to know each other. If you need a name tag, please stop by the Welcome table.
- **WBS Children:** Your children are cared for by our wonderful WBS Children's Ministry team led by Laura Ostergard (laura.ostergard@yahoo.com) and Delores Davis.

To accommodate any illness, or absences, of our childcare workers, we are asking women to sign up to substitute once, if needed, for the upcoming WBS year. Sign up sheets will be in your small groups.

All of our weekly materials: Announcement/outline page, discussion/study questions, and the printed lecture notes are available on our website listed below.

<http://autumnridgechurch.org/adult/women/womens-bible-study.html>

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Women's Bible Study Weekly Outline

What's In The Heart: A Heart of Honor

1 Samuel 21-24

Michelle Harris

It's very simple—

1. A rough start
2. Honor toward those who depended on him
3. Honor toward those he has wronged
4. Honor toward the people of Keilah
5. Honor toward those who wronged him

During the next four weeks Autumn Ridge Church is studying the core value of worship as a church. Although the Women's Bible Study is not following the church's study guide on that subject we'll touch on it in one of our sessions (A Heart of Worship - Oct. 28) and during that time will publish some comments on the subject from WBS morning worship leader Karlee Nichols:

When I decided to take on leading worship for the AM Women's Bible Study at ARC, I didn't realize how much God would challenge me to really dive into what worship is and what it means to me as a Christian. I have come to the realization that worshipping God is not something that we can allow ourselves to do out of habit or only when we "feel" like it, but rather it is an intentional act that uplifts our Creator for who He is despite our current circumstances. We may not always agree with how God handles our lives or we may be confused or even angry at what has been dealt to us, but our circumstance and emotion do not diminish His power, His will, His abilities, His love nor His faithfulness. Instead, we should recognize these characteristics even more and bring ourselves into a constant state of worship because we are in such desperate need of His control in our lives. He is our Creator; we are nothing without Him. He is absolutely worthy of our intentional worship. For me, this is something to get excited about.
-Karlee Nichols



Women's Bible Study is a ministry of AUTUMN RIDGE CHURCH

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