

WELCOME TO WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

A MINISTRY OF AUTUMN RIDGE CHURCH



*As a courtesy to our speakers, please turn cell phones off or set to vibrate.
Thank You!*

Dear Friends,

*I have always been powerfully struck by a verse from Matthew 9, which occurs when Jesus has been practicing his ministry in many towns. **"When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd."** (Matthew 9: 36). I think one reason it appeals to me is that it gives Jesus' motivation for becoming our Good Shepherd. Most of us instinctively react when we see a small child wandering around without someone in tow. We look around to see where their parent is, and we automatically try to protect them from danger. Usually, of course, their mom or dad is right behind the child and we can relax. But I believe we have the natural desire to look out for helpless creatures.*

Jesus saw the crowds and had that same protective instinct. These people were harassed by the stresses of life, the realities of living in a subsistence economy and a militarily occupied state. They were helpless in the face of the Romans. But Jesus knew that what they needed was not liberation from Rome, but liberation from their sin. They needed the protection and guidance of a shepherd. He became their shepherd and ours.

Today we will learn how Jesus' shepherding of our lives allows us to live without fear. The shepherd lays down his life for the sheep, and he laid down his life for ours. I'm glad we no longer have to be harassed and helpless. We have a Good Shepherd.

Warmly,

Gretchen Steer

**If you are new to Women's Bible Study today
and have not registered,
please visit us at the registration table
so we can place you in a small group.**

September 21, 2011

Announcements

- ☞ **PERMANENT NAME TAGS:** Please pick up your permanent name tag at the tables in the foyer. They are in alphabetical order. If you do not find your name, please let your SMALL GROUP LEADER know and we will have one for you by next week.
- ☞ **WBS AM CHILD CARE:** Please pick up your children promptly at 11:00 as a courtesy to our childcare workers.
- ☞ **VOLUNTEER AM CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE:** Please use the sign-up sheets available today in your small groups to volunteer to help in our children's program if needed when workers are ill or unable to attend. You will only be called upon once during the year if we are in need of assistance. Thank you for blessing the children by serving.
- ☞ **WBS PM CHILD CARE:** Please be respectful of our evening volunteers and pick up your children immediately at 8:00 pm.
- ☞ **SMALL GROUPS:** Small group assignments are located on the additional handout. The name of the room where your group will meet is listed under each of the co-leaders' names. We prayerfully did our best to honor your requests AND balance group numbers. Please stop by the registration table and talk with Jacqui Stahl if you have concerns about your placement.
- ☞ **WEEKLY PREPARATION:** Please set aside time BEFORE each weekly lecture and group time to do any homework necessary to participate well in your groups each week.
- ☞ **ALL WBS WEEKLY MATERIALS:** The announcement/outline page, questions, and printed lecture materials are available on our website listed below. Questions will be posted one week in advance of the lecture. Announcement page and lectures will be posted by Thursday at noon following the weekly lecture.
- ☞ **QUESTIONS DURING THE WEEK:** Please contact Michelle Johnson, ARC Women's Ministries administrative assistant, at johnson.michelle@autumnridgechurch.org or at the church office at 288-8880 if you need further assistance.



Who Do YOU Say I AM?

A Study of the Names and Character of Christ

WHO DO YOU SAY I AM? (JOHN 10:11-18)
Today's speaker is Jann Wright

Marriage Events:

* **Financial Peace University** taught by Dave Ramsey begins September 24 and 25. This is a 13-week video curriculum which includes a family lifetime membership with access to mp3's/CD's, worksheets, and continued teaching via the web. Mr. Ramsey uses humor, personal examples, and easy explanation to encourage you to get out of debt, build wealth, and give more. Cost of class is \$99. Register online at www.autumnridgechurch.org.

* **Marriage Enrichment Weekend** October 7-9 at Elizabeth Lodge. This retreat is designed for you to experience spiritual and emotional growth in your marriage and discuss marriage topics with marriage mentors. Space is limited. Cost is \$30/couple and includes all meals. To register, visit www.autumnridgechurch.org.

Women of Faith Conference October 21-22 in St. Paul: Join women from the Rochester area for a weekend of experiencing God's amazing love. Hear inspirational speakers Luci Swindoll, Lisa Smith, Sheila Walsh, and Angie Smith and Dove award musical artist Natalie Grant. Package prices include: entrance tickets to Friday and Saturday sessions, box lunch for both days, bus transportation from ARC, and overnight accommodations. Contact Karen Rucker for more information at women@autumnridgechurch.org or register online at www.autumnridgechurch.org.

A Class on Biblical Parenting will be presented by our children's and young adult pastors, Pat Wester and Andy Kumpel, on October 1 from 9-10 am. Parents will learn how to infuse biblical character and values into children. This class is required for child dedications. Register at www.autumnridgechurch.org.

Movie Night September 30th: 7 PM showing of *Courageous* at Wehrenberg Theaters. Purchase discounted tickets priced at \$7.25 online by September 28 for this special ARC group showing by visiting www.autumnridgechurch.org/events/movie.

I. Life of a Shepherd

II. Overarching Theme of the Good Shepherd (John 10)

III. Overarching Theme of the Bad Shepherd (Ezekiel 34)

IV. Why don't we act more like the Good Shepherd?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

V. The Messiah is coming

VI. The Messiah has come

VII. The Messiah will come again

While We Wait:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

