



Three Words

By Andrea Tyson

A dear friend told me that my whole life could be summed up in three words. As someone who dislikes being pegged into categories, I was a bit surprised. I like to think I'm a little more complex than that.

Three words to sum up my entire life? After five seconds, I smiled and said, **"For God's glory."** You got me. That's the umbrella under which I try to live my whole life.

But those weren't the words she was thinking.

What is your life about? How would someone sum up your existence if they only had three words to use? And, would you like that description? Would God?

We are known for a lot of different things. Maybe you define your life by the identity that different roles give you: daughter of God, wife, friend, mother, servant, or employee. We all have quirks that make us distinct. There are stories that we are sure would be told at our funeral. I am sure that people would remember my tenacity in ultimate Frisbee, my ability to drink massive volumes of Diet Coke with grenadine, and my appreciation of eating a cookie for breakfast. Those things are good and fun! But, there has to be more.

More than what we like to think we are about or what we say we are about, what do our lives say we are about? God's glory? The gospel? Discipleship?

"What could be?" My friend captured my life with a summary question that I never realized I ask in every aspect of my life. It encompasses faith, identity, and mission. I am very aware of what is, but I live with a discontent that there must be more.

I find it helpful to think long-term about what I want to become and what God wants me to become. I have a description of who I would love to be by the time I'm 50. I know that by the grace of God, I could become her. If I don't think about where I want to be, I can't rewind to think about the practical steps that it will take to get there.

For example, if I desire to be a woman who knows the Bible well so that I know God better, recognize lies more quickly, and am changed continually as God's Word challenges and encourages me, I should read the Bible every day. I won't learn it, know it, and apply it if I don't invest in reading and studying. If I want to have large portions memorized to help me fight against sin and to encourage others with truth, I should start with something simple, trying to memorize a verse once a week or every two weeks. Sure, that's only 30 verses a year, but in ten years, that is 300 more verses than I had tucked into my heart before.

We often want the impact of knowing a lot or being different in character or priorities but are unwilling to put in the work little by little consistently over time to let God grow those things in us.

What could be? We could be women who are wholly surrendered to Jesus. Trusting Him. Following Him. Being changed by Him. Telling others about Him. We could be women who live like we actually believe the truths we profess.

Perhaps we need to dream a little bigger. What could happen in our lives this year and in our Church this year that could only be explained by the hand of God? How might He desire to draw us closer to Himself than we have ever been? How might He stretch us to proclaim to our families, friends, and co-workers that there is no one like Him?

There is no rut too deep, no character too tarnished, no sin too great, no heart too far gone for God to do what seems impossible. God can do what is impossible for us. Our respond in faith to Him matters. Repent. Yield. Follow. Thank.

The only way that the *"what could be?"* will happen is if God comes in power and if we journey together. The choices we make today impact what will be. So much of our lives of faith are about living the day-to-day routines with the right heart for the right reason. We need a community to help us know God, grow, and persevere.

There are many things you could spend your time doing. As your calendars fill and another ministry year begins, consider carefully how the decisions you make today will impact what will be.

If you are interested in learning more about the Women's Ministries Vision, or if you desire a plan for how to intentionally invest your life in the life of another, come check out the To Get Her To Lead kick-off on August 27th from 9 a.m. - Noon. Please R.S.V.P.



Together: Three Words..P1 Together Studying.....P4-5 Together Stronger.....P7
Together Investing.....P2-3 Together Serving.....P6 Calendar.....P8

If you would like to be taken off the newsletter mailing list, please call 763-536-3273

Getting a Glimpse of...

The Heart of the Co-Leaders of Real Women

Ginny McMillan and **Beth Pederson** were the co-coordinators for Real Women this past year. As they continue to serve the Lord in this role this fall, hear their hearts for this ministry and the women of NHC:

What are some of the changes you have seen God do in RW at NHC in the last few years?

GM: He's drawn the hearts of women together, relationally and spiritually, as they study Scripture and a book, pray together, and serve.

BP: Relationships of love that go beyond just meeting at church have been formed.

What difference has RW made in your life?

GM: RW has increased my desire to be intentional in relationships, to disciple and mentor, to be discipled and to be mentored. It has made me realize to a much greater extent the importance of belonging to a small group by being accountable to each other and the Lord in all areas of our lives.

BP: Real Women has changed me personally through the high acceptance, yet high accountability I experience from the women in my group. I can be transparent, vulnerable, honest and real, knowing that the women in my group will love me well. But I also know that I may be asked the tough questions like, "How is the Word changing you? How are you applying it in your life? What are you struggling with? How can we pray for you?"

The difference has been deep and lasting relationships with other women.

What would you say to the woman who doesn't think she would "fit" in RW?

GM: Come and try it out. Keep an open mind. The women are great, the teaching superb, the books challenging, the sharing and prayer times sweet, the service times stretching, and the laughter good for the soul.

BP: Try it. You will not only like it... you will love it! Seriously, I believe you get what you give. If you are willing to commit to being actively present each Thursday we meet, coming with a desire for head knowledge, heart change, and hands that serve, you will fit in! Trust me; better yet, trust God!

What is your prayer for RW this year?

GM: I pray that each woman who attends would know God's deep love for her, would learn to live and love like Jesus, and would help others do the same.

BP: My prayer for this year in Real Women is that it becomes "viral". What I mean by that is that women at NHC "catch" the virus of being real. The virus of following Jesus well by becoming a disciple who discipled others while both continue to be changed by God.

Why should a woman choose Real Women?

This is an intergenerational discipling ministry where mini-mentoring groups of women (three to five women) dive into the Bible, supplementary books, and each other's lives through accountability and prayer, discussing relevant questions about what it looks like to honor God with our lives and in our relationships.

We like to say that we are not a Bible study, but we study the Bible. We are not a book club, but we read a couple of books at a slow, do-able pace. We are not a prayer group, but we pray for one another. We are not a service club, but we serve together. We are women who are growing as disciples of Jesus who support, challenge, and encourage one another to live lives that are more intentional about the things that matter.

Sally Burkett, participant and mentor, shared, "God has helped me so much as I have gone through life by blessing me with women who have gone around the block at least one more time than I have; women who have helped teach me to trust God. We need help to hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess."

Real Women can help.

Real Women meets the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Thursday each month from 7-8:30 p.m. The kick-off is **Thursday, September 15**. Early registration is very appreciated for planning purposes.

Learn more at:

www.newhopechurchmn.org/women/opportunities.php under the Real Women link.

You can register on the attached insert by mailing it to:

New Hope Church
c/o Andrea Tyson
4225 Gettysburg Ave
New Hope, MN 55428

Getting a Glimpse of...

The Heart of the Co-Leaders of MOPS'

Jenny Fenlason and **Leslie McWhite** were the co-coordinators for MOPS this past year. As they continue to serve the Lord in this role this fall, hear their hearts for this ministry and the women of NHC:

What are some of the changes you have seen God do in MOPS at NHC in the last few years?

JF: God has been working in the hearts of our moms and giving them a desire to not only attend MOPS for the enjoyment and relaxation but to connect with other women and grow deeper in their walk with the Lord. It's also encouraging to see how God is working in the lives and hearts of our discussion group leaders, mentor moms, and steering team members to give them a common vision and heart for growth in the moms of MOPS.

What difference has MOPS made in your life?

JF: When I first began MOPS as a new mom 5 years ago, it was an oasis in the sleep-deprived, emotional and lonely world of becoming a stay at home mom for the first time. Since then, while it continues to be an oasis, it has also become a place where I am privileged to see other moms find a peaceful oasis and grow. MOPS has given me a place to be refreshed and given me a place to serve, and that is a privilege.

What would you say to the mom who doesn't think she would "fit" in MOPS?

LM: That's exactly why you do fit...none of us think we do! Motherhood seems to be very unlike other seasons in life in its ability to really shake who you think you are and what you are all about. Being in community with other moms can reassure you that you're not alone, but most importantly, that who you are in Christ is essential!

JF: I don't really fit in either so, please come join us so I'm not alone! The only way you don't fit in at MOPS is if you don't have a preschooler (infant-kindergarten). We have moms from different backgrounds, different churches, and different stages of life.

What is your prayer for this year of MOPS?

JF: My prayer is that moms will come to a deeper understanding of their identity in Christ. And, that as our moms grow in this understanding, they will grow in their roles as wives, mothers and friends, all with contentment and joy.

LM: I pray for God to work in the hearts of our moms, helping them to depend more on Him and less on themselves. And, that we all experience increasing joy and contentment in who it is that God created us to be in our role as moms.



Why should a mom choose MOPS?

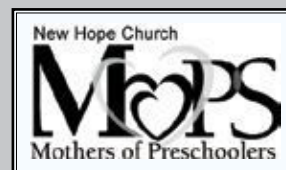
by Wendy Terry

Being a mom to young children is a season of constant change. MOPS is filled with moms who understand the unique needs, challenges and joys of mothering young children. Our desire is to be a place where all of us experience encouragement and community in a way that helps us thrive in this season, not just survive it. We journey through this season together because together we can become better women who are better moms, helping to create a better world.

"I'm starting my 7th year in MOPS at NHC. I wouldn't trade my time here for anything. I've looked forward each month to uninterrupted grown-up conversation; that in and of itself is reward enough for me some days. But, God has given me so much more here: deep friendships, support and encouragement, a sense of calling, and a place to be myself."

All moms with preschoolers (infant-kindergarten) are welcome to join us just as you are. You'll be glad you did. We may not always know all the answers, but we know the One who does.

*We meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month, starting **September 22nd**, from 9:30 – 11:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Room; childcare and brunch open at 9:15.*



To register:

contact Amy, 763-537-2128

or visit our website @

www.newhopechurchmn.org/mops.

“Why should a woman choose Bible Study?”

Do you have a longing in your heart to know God or to grow closer to Him?

Do you find it challenging to consistently read and study your Bible?

Do you desire relationships with other women who love the Lord? Are you overwhelmed by life's circumstances and need wisdom and guidance? You are not alone!

Joining together with other women at New Hope Church in the weekly study of God's Word will help you grow in your faith, be consistent in study, connect in friendship, and find direction in life.

Listen to God through His Word by becoming intentional about Bible study. It is a discipline that will bless you immensely.

This year we are offering four different Bible studies for you to choose from. All studies begin on Wednesday, September 21, 2011.

A registration form is included separately in this newsletter or you can register online. Childcare is available in the morning through Women's Bible Study and in the evening through Children's Ministry.

Woman's

Generations Bible Study

Breaking Free: The Journey, The Stories

by Beth Moore

Breaking Free leads you through the Scriptures to discover the transforming power of freedom in Jesus Christ. Themes come from Isaiah, a book about the captivity of God's children, the faithfulness of God, and the road to freedom. Beth Moore looks at how the lives of the kings who ruled during Isaiah's ministry exemplify many of the obstacles to freedom we deal with today. The book and teaching sessions have been updated from the original version.

This study includes DVD lecture, approximately 2 1/2 hours of homework biweekly, small group discussion, and group prayer time.

Dates: September 21 – April 25

Times: Wed. 9:15 – 11:15 a.m.

Wed. 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Ministry Center

Book Fee: \$15.00

(plus \$5.00 registration fee)

Foundations Bible Study

The Stranger On The Road To Emmaus

by John Cross

Whether you are unfamiliar with the Bible, just beginning, or wanting to re-ground yourself in God's Word, you will enjoy this informative, step-by-step study through the Scriptures. Beginning at creation and continuing through to the resurrection. The Stranger On The Road To Emmaus will take the events of the Bible and tie them together with a repeated theme emerging clearly and logically from the pages.

This study includes teaching, weekly homework, and discussion. It is limited to 12 students.

Dates: September 21 – April 25

Time: Wed. 9:15 – 11:15 a.m.

Location: Welcome Center

Teacher: Amy Houts

Book Fee: \$13.00

(book and workbook, plus \$5.00 registration fee)

Bible Study

Precepts Bible Study

Jeremiah (Parts 1 & 2)

by Kay Arthur

Jeremiah was a prophet appointed by God who spoke a hard message to the people of his day. It is still God's message today - a call to listen to His Word. In Part 1 see how heeding Jeremiah's message can bring healing and hope to all. In Part 2 learn what God's message was to a rebellious Judah as Babylonian exile loomed.

This Precept Upon Precept study includes DVD lecture, approximately 5 hours of intensive weekly homework, and large group discussion.

Dates: September 21 - March 14
(Esther 3/21-4/25, 2012)

Times: Wed. 9:15 - 11:15 a.m.
Wed. 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Locations: Family Center A1 (a.m.)
Sandburg Chapel (p.m.)

Teachers: Tam Harken (a.m.)
Deb Boal (p.m.)

Book Fee: \$20.25 (Part 1 book,
plus \$5.00 registration fee)

Revelation (Parts 1 & 2)

by Kay Arthur

Chapters 1-3 of the Book of Revelation contain God's messages to the seven churches of Asia. See how His messages recorded by John so long ago still speak to the church today. The focus of chapters 4-22 is the end times. Through careful observation of the text, discover exactly what God says will take place.

This Precept Upon Precept Study includes DVD lecture, approximately 5 hours of intensive weekly homework, and group discussion.

Dates: September 21, 2011 - April 25

Time: Wed. 9:15 - 11:15 a.m.

Location: Parent - Child Room

Teacher: Sue Ann Russell

Book Fee: \$22.50 (Part 1 book,
plus \$5.00 registration fee)



1. Mail-in Registration Form

(Included in newsletter or downloadable)

New Hope Church
Women's Bible Study
4225 Gettysburg Ave. N.
New Hope, MN 55428



2. Online Registration

Go To:
[newhopechurchmn.org/
women/biblestudies.php](http://newhopechurchmn.org/women/biblestudies.php)

Got Questions?

Contact Renee Westman
rwestman@newhopechurchmn.org
or 763-536-3212



K2 TOG

Every Monday
6:30-8:30 p.m.



The goal of the K2 Tog is to “knit” the church and the community together by creating an opportunity to join around a common interest

and by using the finished products to serve others. New and experienced knitters are welcome! The knitted items are given to six different organizations.

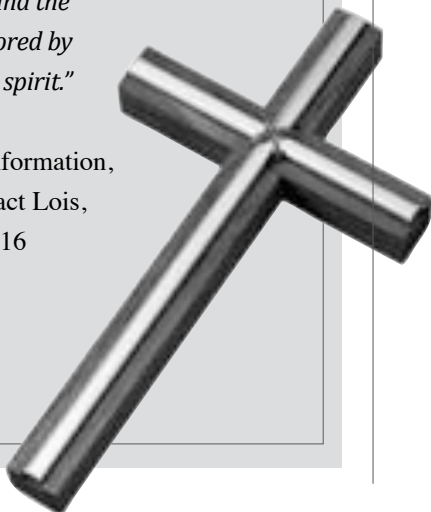
For more information contact Amy, 763-560-2255

White Cross

1st Thursday Each Month
9:15 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

This ministry includes projects for local needs and support for foreign missions. Lois Farrell, coordinator of White Cross says, “I enjoy our work. Ladies share their time and skills cheerfully, and the Lord is honored by their giving spirit.”

For more information, please contact Lois, 763-559-2716



Service is not a project; it’s a lifestyle. Serving is not just what we do when we come to do a specific task or role at Church. It is a humble way of living that seeks to consider other people better than ourselves (*Phil. 2*). It is important to value and prioritize serving our families and roommates. And, it is also important to consider how we are serving the Church.

Some women feel confused about where they should or could serve in the Church. The opportunities available to women are vast, so the question I hope you are asking yourself as you begin to think about your fall schedule is this, “In what way/s am I committed to serving the Lord at New Hope Church?”

Many of these serving opportunities are serving people directly (Life-on-life) while others tend to serve people more indirectly through tasks (Hands-on). Because many tasks are behind-the-scenes, it can be hard to know how or where to pitch in to help with the communication, set-up, or structure that allows the more direct relationships to grow.

There are many ways in Women’s Ministries and around the Church that you can contribute like:

Hands-on Opportunities

Photography, Design, Writing, Editing, Administrating, Cooking, Teaching, Greeting, Translating, Praying, Technical helping, Researching, Web Updating. Budgeting, Singing, Playing Instruments, Stocking Shelves, Hospitality, Mailing Help, Sewing, or Event Planning.

Disciple-makers who desire to encourage and equip people to become disciple-makers are always needed. Consider:

Life-on-Life Opportunities

- * **Investing in Missionaries**
Joanna Mart, 763-971-5107
- * **Investing in Jr./Sr. High students**
Liza Schoolmeesters, 763-971-5108
- * **Investing in kids**
(Wed. p.m. or Sun. a.m.)
Randi Soderstrom, 763-536-3240
- * **Investing in kids** (Sun. p.m.)
Jennifer Stahl, 763-536-3227
- * **Investing in kids** (Tues. p.m.)
Liz Rose, 763-971-5120
- * **Investing in People from the Community**
Holly Nimchuk, 763-533-5887
- * **Investing in Disabled People**
Deb Bankes, 763-971-5117
- * **Investing in Women**
Andrea Tyson, 763-536-3273
- * **Compensated Childcare** (Wed. a.m.)
Tina Garee, 507-398-4135
- * **Compensated Childcare** (Thurs. a.m.)
Gina Conklin, 763-420-8748

Learning what might be a good place to invest visit online at:
<http://www.newhopechurchmn.org/connect/serviceops.php>



There is a place for you. We can help you find it. I would love to see every woman serving the Lord in this local congregation this fall somewhere.

Unveil

You can be free. You can know your true identity and live like it's true. Seriously. Secrets, shame, and guilt create a dark, hopeless feeling place for many women, but you don't have to live there. You can be free.

Lust is an issue that all women experience. Before you disagree, please hear me out. *The Unveil: Lust Free Living (LFL)* material defines lust as "desiring to get rather than give." It describes lust as good desires, like wanting to feel loved, beautiful, needed, valuable and protected, that have become distorted in our hearts and minds. Basically, that describes the root of almost any sin issue in our lives.

For some women, the symptoms of lust show up in physical expressions of masturbation, pornography, or affairs. For some women, the symptoms of lust show up in physical expressions of coping or escaping through movies, books, eating, materialism, or unhealthy isolation. But, those are all still symptoms.

LFL seeks to get at the root of why we think, feel, and do what we do. This study moves us beyond sin management or behavior modification to understand the emotional, mental, and spiritual triggers that cause us to go after what we desire in ways that end up being unhealthy for us. It teaches us how to fight against sexual sin and all other kinds of sin in our lives by knowing our identities in Christ, believing God and His promises, and letting Him do heart-work in us.

Over 100 women at NHC have already gone through LFL. There are now groups available for both single and married women.

For information or to be put on a registration list for the next round of *LFL that will start in mid-October*, please visit www.newhopechurchmn.org/women/biblestudies.php. Groups will meet in the evening or morning depending on the need, so please indicate times that work with your schedule and whether you desire to be in a married, single, or mixed group.

"Our passion is to teach Christian women, like you, to fight spiritually for purity so you can freely serve God."

– Author of *LFL*

Pillow Talk with Marla Taviano



Is sex all your husband really thinks about? Do you suspect, hope, or dare to hope that there must be something that could help you enjoy a great sex life with your husband?

Married women, let's talk about sex! Join guest author and speaker, **Marla Taviano**, as she candidly and biblically speaks with an upbeat passion about an area of life that is so important for you and your marriage.

**Thursday, October 6
7:00-9:00 p.m.**

For more information visit,
newhopechurchmn.org/women/events.php
or call 763-536-3273



THEN...

encourage your husband to attend the Men's Retreat on **October 7-9** as Marla will be giving men the inside scoop on better understanding their wives' needs and desires with regard to spiritual and physical intimacy. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity to create vital, open communication between you and your spouse!

For more information visit,
newhopechurchmn.org/men/events.php
or call 763-536-3273

to get her

AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV
	8 White Cross begins	6 Pillow Talk	1 Together to Lead
	15 Real Women begins	2011 Fall/Winter	
	21 Wed. Bible Studies begin	22	
27 Together to Lead	22 MOPS begins		

For more information contact:
Andrea Tyson



Director of Women's Ministries
atyson@newhopechurchmn.org
763-536-3273

Bible Study Registration Enclosed



Women's Ministries
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www.newhopechurchmn.org
763-533-2449

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