



## Ladies' Bible Study Information Fall 2019

August 21, 2019

Dear Friends,

It has happened again. Summer has disappeared. But the end of one season and its good things signals the start of another and all of its good things. And included in my definition of good things is Ladies' Bible Study at Hampton Park.

I would like to invite you to our fall 2019 session, beginning Wednesday morning, September 4. We will be studying the words of God to His church in Corinth, a major city of the first century. Ancient words but a timeless message even for twenty-first century believers. We will see ourselves in the Corinthian believers, and we can find our needs met in Jesus just the same.

God had sent His apostle Paul to the thriving metropolis of Corinth around the year 50. Though Paul's message was initially rejected and blasphemed, he was assured by God that "I have many people in this city," and he stayed there 18 months to preach and teach Jesus (Acts 18). Many believed, and a church was born. But growing pains set in, and after he left Corinth, Paul received reports of trouble in Corinth, not from outside the church but within it: immorality, disorderly worship, doctrinal doubting, and divisions, divisions, divisions. Satan loves to use God's people against God's people, to disrupt the love, unity, and peace found in Christ that should shine out from those called by His name. Paul writes a long letter to his friends in Corinth, to remind them that who they are in Christ and what they possess in Him should motivate and govern every part of personal and church life. This is indeed a timeless message, as we too can struggle to get along, to keep ourselves pure, and to let love for God and others triumph over everything.

Early in his letter, Paul writes, "I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, that in every way you were enriched in Him in all speech and all knowledge, even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you, so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." What an amazing reality, for them and for all who are in Christ. Whatever problems arise in our hearts and our churches, the answer always begins with this good news.

To guide our study, we will use the book *1 Corinthians: Living Love When We Disagree*, by Melissa Spoelstra (whose warmth and candor and commitment to the truth were of great benefit to us in our recent study in Numbers). May God use these weeks spent in *1 Corinthians* to change us for our good and His glory, that Jesus may be seen in all we do.

On the back of this letter are answers to questions you may have. Bring your Bible, bring some new and long-time friends, and I will look for you all on September 4!

With love to you,

Mary Ellen

## Ladies' Bible Study Information – Fall 2019

### **Is the Ladies' Bible Study limited to those who attend Hampton Park?**

No. We welcome anyone in the community and any other guests you may have.

### **Where and what time does the Bible Study meet and for how many weeks will it continue?**

Ladies' Bible Study will begin on Wednesday, September 4, and will continue through Wednesday, November 20. We begin at 9:15 am in small groups at round tables in the Yearick Center Blue Room. The purpose of this gathering is for fellowship and learning from others as you share what God has taught you through your own study during the week before. This time will begin to clarify the meaning of those Scriptures and lead us toward application in our own hearts and lives, how God wants us to change and grow in love for Him and for others through this study. Our time together each week will conclude with a lesson taught on the passage, ending at 11 am.

### **Is child care available?**

Yes, we provide care in the Hampton Park nursery at no charge for infants and preschoolers beginning at 8:30 a.m.

### **When and where will the Homeschool Study Hall meet?**

Students should bring study materials (and may bring a snack) and meet in the lobby of the Yearick Center building beginning at 9:00 a.m. They will have time to do school work and to attend Hampton Park Christian School chapel.

### **Do we have a study guide?**

Yes, we will be using Melissa Spoelstra's book, *1 Corinthians: Living Love When We Disagree*. You can purchase this book for \$15 in the Hampton Park bookstore on Sundays or in the office during the week, or at the first meeting.

- There are 6 lessons, each split into five days of reading and questions. At the first meeting, we will get to know the church at Corinth and study the first chapter of Paul's letter to them. We will also look at Acts 18:1-17, the history of Paul's time in Corinth.
- If you can get your study guide before the first meeting, please read the introduction to the study on pages 5-7, and answer the questions on pages 9-29 (Days 1-3), covering Chapter 1 of 1 Corinthians.
- The second week of our study will include Days 4 and 5 of that first lesson (pages 29-40), looking at Chapter 2 of 1 Corinthians.
- The remaining 5 lessons will be covered two weeks per lesson, with the specific schedule given to you with your study guide.
- We also invite you to watch The Bible Project's online overview of 1 Corinthians, an 8-minute introduction to the book and its theme of living out who we are in Christ in every area of our lives and interactions with others. ([www.thebibleproject.com/videos1-corinthians/](http://www.thebibleproject.com/videos1-corinthians/)). You will enjoy this audio and visual sketch!

### **How early is the Blue Room open each Wednesday?**

The Blue Room is open at 8:30 a.m. each Wednesday, with hot beverages provided. You are invited to spend that time alone or with others for fellowship, prayer or study.

### **How do I join a discussion group?**

If you are new to Bible Study, you may have a friend whose group you would like to join, or we will be glad to help you find a table. Many ladies like to return to the table group they have been with before. This is fine, but please do consider a new one at some times to get to know others that you have not met or been much acquainted with. We promise your table leader will not be offended. We encourage cross-generational groups, as each of us has much to gain from and give to others from all seasons of life.

### **Who are the discussion group leaders?**

The group leaders are ladies from the Hampton Park membership: Rhonda Corbett, Kris Erkens, Jenny Fetterolf, Joan Jensen, Cheryl Koenke, Dawn Lennon, Cathy Logan, Ila Maxwell, Dawn Salle, Sarah Shaffer, Sue Steveson, Betty Whisnant, and Karen Wooster. Theresa Bixby, Ruth Coleman, and Mary Ellen Conley will teach the lessons.

### **How do I find the nursery?**

Come to the upper parking lot and park near the double doors labeled "Offices." Enter through those double doors and turn right to go to the stairway to the lower level. At the bottom of the stairway turn right to go to the nursery department. The lower nursery doors are not available to use on school days.

### **What if we have inclement weather?**

In case of inclement weather, we will follow the Hampton Park Christian School schedule. If school is cancelled, we will cancel LBS. If the school is on a delay, we will start at 10:00 and have only the teaching time.