



JANUARY



IMPORTANT DATES:

1/16 - tnl

1/23 - tnl

1/30 - tnl

2/2 - light mtng

2/9-11 - winter camp



JANUARY 13TH

Women

INTRO TO OLD TESTAMENT

“But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God,
and that by believing you may have life in His name”

John 20:31

*Taken from Erin Davis' blog post [Join Our First Ever Online Bible Study](http://www.liesyoungwomenbelieve.com/join-first-online-bible-study/). Used with permission from [www.LiesYoungWomenBelieve.com](http://www.liesyoungwomenbelieve.com).
Davis, E. (2017, September 25). Join our first ever online bible study [Blog Post]. Retrieved from
<http://www.liesyoungwomenbelieve.com/join-first-online-bible-study/>*

For the next two months we will not just be talking about aspects of God's Word, but reading it! We will be opening God's Word together in our very first LiesYoungWomenBelieve.com Bible study. Why?

Why is it important to read God's word? Create a list with as many reasons that you can think of:

Rate yourself on a scale of 1-10 (1 being the worst, 10 being the best) on how you spend your time in the Word:

Why? Because we believe this with all of our hearts:
Read Isaiah 55:11 and highlight it in your Bible. What do you think this verse means?

God's Word is always, always, always fruitful.

We want to set aside these weeks to press pause on our words and highlight God's Word. We will spend this month looking at the lives of four Old Testament women with a goal of finding the Gospel woven into their stories. We will spend next week looking at the lives of four New Testament women with the same goal.

JANUARY 15TH

Women

EVE PART ONE

“But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God,
and that by believing you may have life in His name”

John 20:31

Eve may be the most well-known and most misunderstood woman in all of Scripture. Write down what you already know about Eve. If you don't know anything, that is alright!

Maybe you associate her story with sin and the Fall. But what if her story (and your story) are really about the Gospel? If you grew up in the church, “Gospel” is likely a word you’ve heard many times before. But what is the Gospel, exactly?

What do you think the word “Gospel” means? Ask a friend, or look it up if you aren’t sure.

The word Gospel means “good news.” In your own words, write down what you think the good news/Gospel of the Bible is?

It seems misunderstanding the basics of the Gospel is not a new problem. Paul wrote these words to the church in Galatia. These were Christians who seemed to be struggling to understand the Gospel. Paul’s prayer for these believers was that they would have a clear understanding of the Gospel. I am praying the same thing for you.

With your Bible open to Galatians 1:6–9, read the passage and underline/highlight anything that stands out to you.

What clues do we find about the definition of the Gospel from this passage?

According to verse 7, how many versions of the Gospel exist?

Paul corrected the Galatians because they were wrongly believing other Gospels, then he stopped in his tracks and wrote, “not that there is another [Gospel]” (v. 7). There is only one Gospel. If we keep reading this verse we discover it is “the Gospel of Christ.”

I like how pastor Tim Keller sums it up:

“The Gospel is this: We are more sinful and flawed in ourselves than we ever dared believe, yet at the very same time we are more loved and accepted in Jesus Christ than we ever dared hope.”

How would you explain the Gospel of Christ to a kindergartner?

If the Gospel were a math equation, we could write it like this: Christ’s sacrifice > our sin.

What questions do you still have about “the Gospel?”

JANUARY 18TH

Women

EVE PART TWO

“But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God,
and that by believing you may have life in His name”

John 20:31

Where do you think the story of the Gospel begins?

You might think the answer is Matthew 1, the beginning of the New Testament where we first read about the birth of Jesus. But the message of the Gospel actually goes all the way back to the beginning, back to Eve. The truth of the Gospel arrived on the scene shortly after Jesus spoke the world into existence.

Read Genesis 3:1-7

What do you learn about mankind in these verses?

The Gospel reveals that we are sinners in need of a Savior. Here we see that truth on full display. Eve sinned by taking the forbidden fruit and disobeying God's law. As daughters of Eve, we repeat her mistakes through the generations. But the Gospel gives us hope.

What does the word sin mean?

Continue Reading Genesis 3:8-24. Highlight or underline what stands out to you.

What did God do for Eve in Genesis 3:21?

He clothed her! This is a beautiful picture of the Gospel.

Look up one final verse, Isaiah 61:10.

What does God clothe His people in?

As His children, we wear “garments of salvation” and “the robe of righteousness.”

How does Eve’s story relate to your story?

Eve’s story is our story. She sinned, and God clothed and cared for her. We sin, and He still gives us clean garments that we don’t deserve and welcomes us into His kingdom.

Because of this, Eve’s story is not about her sin but about her rescue. Just like your story is not about your sin but about your redemption by a God who has always had you on His mind.

JANUARY 20TH

Women

EVE WRAP UP

“But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God,
and that by believing you may have life in His name”
John 20:31

What is something you have learned from Eve’s story?

What is the “good news” of what God has done in your life personally?

JANUARY 22ND

Women

HAGAR PART ONE

“But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God,
and that by believing you may have life in His name”

John 20:31

*Taken from Erin Davis' blog post A Beautiful Knowing. Used with permission from
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*Davis, E. (2017, September 26). A Beautiful Knowing [Blog Post]. Retrieved from
<http://www.liesyoungwomenbelieve.com/a-beautiful-knowing/>*

Favorite flower? Daisy.

Favorite color? Yellow.

Favorite car? T-top corvette.

This is a game my husband, Jason, and I love to play. Whenever we get some time away, just the two of us, we settle into a familiar rhythm of asking each other about likes and dislikes, pet peeves, and dreams for the future. We've been married so long we already know the answers to most of the questions. But we keep asking them because every question is like a love note that says, "I know you."

Jason was my high school sweetheart. Two decades later, he knows me better than anyone else on the planet. He can order for me at restaurants because he already knows what I like. He can read the expressions on my face without me ever saying a word. Sigh. Romantic, isn't it?

Knowing and being known is a beautiful gift, and it's what transforms the story of Hagar from a story of rejection and hurt to a story of acceptance and purpose.

Take a moment to read Hagar's story in Genesis 16. Highlight/underline anything that stands out to you.

JANUARY 25TH

Women

HAGAR PART TWO

"But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God,
and that by believing you may have life in His name"

John 20:31

Picture the person who knows you best. Perhaps it's your mom, your best friend, or your sister. If possible, send that person a text and ask the following questions:

- 1. How many hairs are on my head?*
- 2. How many years will I live?*
- 3. What sentence am I going to say next? (Make them guess before you say it.)*

How many did they answer correctly?

Zero, right? Don't worry, that doesn't mean your best friend isn't truly your best friend or that your mom secretly adopted you. It just means they aren't the foremost experts on you. There is One who knows you better than your parents or friends. He even knows you better than you know yourself. We find His name in Hagar's story.

Reread Genesis 16:13.

What do you think this verse means?

Hagar named the Lord “a God of seeing” (ESV). That’s a weird name, right? It’s like calling me “a woman of writing” or you “a player of basketball,” but this was all Hagar knew of the character of God. She didn’t know how she was supposed to talk about God; she just knew that when no one else saw her, He did.

Have there ever been times in your life when you felt like no one “saw you,” but you were comforted by God? If so, describe below:

Another way to describe being seen is being known. Hagar faced difficult circumstances. She was forced to marry a man she likely did not love. She was pregnant with a child she’d have to share with her mistress. She was hated by the woman in charge of her care, and ultimately she was cast out alone into the desert. Hagar’s story is no fairy tale. But that’s the lower story. We are doing this study to help you look for the higher story. There is a higher, more significant plotline at play. Hagar’s life reveals a critical piece of the puzzle of who God is. He is a God who sees us. He is a God who knows us.

How does it make you feel to know that you are fully known, and truly loved by God?

JANUARY 27TH

Women



HAGAR PART THREE

"But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God,
and that by believing you may have life in His name"

John 20:31

Is it possible Hagar's story is really about the Gospel? (For a refresher on what the Gospel is, check out parts one and two.)

How do you think Hagar's story could be about the Gospel?

Read Galatians 4:21-30. Highlight/underline anything that stands out to you.
What do you think this passage has to do with Hagar's story?

These words were written by Paul after Christ's time on earth. Paul knew the lower story. He was aware of the details of Hagar and Sarai's lives, but he didn't park there. He looked for the higher story, the Gospel story.

Paul used Hagar and Sarai as symbols to describe a bigger truth, comparing them to two covenants. Hagar represents one covenant (or promise from God), and Sarai represents a second covenant.

Go back through the verse and compare the differences between Hagar's covenant and Sarai's.

Hagar's tragic story represents life without Christ. She was enslaved to sin and destined to pass that along to the next generation. This is our position without Christ.

What does Romans 6:20 remind us to consider?

What did Jesus declare in John 8:34?

Hagar's life illustrated the hopelessness of this truth. She was a slave, bound to her masters. Scripture doesn't give us any indication that she ever experienced freedom. When we surrender our lives to Him and turn from our sin, we experience true freedom.

In contrast, Sarai's story showcases the covenant of freedom. God's promise to us is that when we surrender our lives to Him and turn from our sin, we experience true freedom. We were born as slaves to sin, but because of Jesus our chains are removed and we are adopted as children of the promise (Gal. 4:28).

JANUARY 29TH

Women



HAGAR WRAP UP

"But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God,
and that by believing you may have life in His name"

John 20:31

At first glance, Genesis 16 looks like a story about a pregnant slave girl in the desert. When we look again, we see it is so much more! Hagar's life declares who God is.

What is something you have learned from Hagar's story?

How does your life/your story declare who God is?

FEBRUARY 1ST

Women

MIRIAM PART ONE

“But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God,
and that by believing you may have life in His name”

John 20:31

*Taken from Erin Davis' blog post A Beautiful Song. Used with permission from
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*Davis, E. (2017, September 27). A Beautiful Song. [Blog Post]. Retrieved from
<http://www.liesyoungwomenbelieve.com/a-beautiful-song/>*

Miriam is one of the very few people in Scripture whose story we get to see from beginning to end. We find her parents' names in Numbers 26:59, and we find her brothers' names in Exodus 6:20 and 1 Chronicles 6:3.

Go ahead and look those verses up. What did you find?

If you have a sibling whose shadow you always seem to be stuck in, you can likely relate to Miriam. She is the sister of the most famous Old Testament prophet of all time, Moses.

If I could sum up Moses' story in just one word, I'd choose the word deliverance.

- *He was delivered from the river as a baby.*
- *He was delivered from the desert by a burning bush.*
- *He was delivered from the Egyptians through a series of miracles.*
- *He delivered God's people to the Promised Land.*

Miriam's story is forever tethered to her brother's. Hers is a story about deliverance, too. Some of the details are the same. Some are different. One cord that binds these siblings together also connects them to us. We all need a deliverer.

Look up the word "deliverance" in the dictionary, and write it down:

How would you describe a "deliverer" in your own words?

Look up [Psalm 18:2](#). This verse describes God as our deliverer. What does that mean?

Another word for a deliverer is a rescuer or savior. Miriam's story helps us see that we serve a God who rescues and saves. If we could sum up our own stories in one word, deliverance works for us, too.

FEBRUARY 3RD

Women

MIRIAM PART TWO

“But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God,
and that by believing you may have life in His name”

John 20:31

Miriam was there when her brother Moses was pulled from the river in a basket made from bullrushes. We find her on the bank of another river in Exodus 15.

Read Exodus 15:1-21. Highlight/underline anything that stands out.

How does God show himself as a “deliverer” in this passage?

Nearly eighty years had passed between Moses' birth and adoption and this moment. So much had happened! Moses, Miriam, and Aaron grew up. Sure, Moses' rescue from the river as a baby was dramatic, but this was a showstopper! Miriam's people were being chased by an army of chariots led by an enraged ruler. They had nowhere to turn and no way to save themselves, but God intervened.

Look up Exodus 15:20-21. Highlight/underline anything that stands out.

How did Miriam respond to God's deliverance?

Miriam watched her enemies drown, and her people were miraculously saved. How did she respond? She busted out her tambourine and worshiped!

What is worship?

Read Romans 12:1 According to this verse, is worship more than just singing? If yes, write down what else is included in a life of worship:

Miriam shows us that worship is the right response to God's deliverance. You don't have to have rhythm or a superstar voice to praise God for all He has saved you from. Simply declare what God has done!

FEBRUARY 5TH

Women

MIRIAM PART THREE

“But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God,
and that by believing you may have life in His name”
John 20:31

Jesus is never mentioned in Exodus 15, yet this story points to the higher story, the Gospel story. Just like Moses, Jesus was born under an edict of death.

Grab your Bible, and read Matthew 2:1–18. Highlight/underline anything that stands out to you.

More than a thousand years had passed since Moses' birth. Jesus, our Savior, had just been born in Bethlehem when Herod did something unthinkable.

Revisit Matthew 2:16. Does this verse sound similar to another story?

If you know all of Moses' story, this will sound familiar. Pharaoh tried to stop God's people by killing their baby boys. Herod tried to stop God Himself by doing the same. But Moses and Miriam teach us that nothing can stop the plans of God. Moses was born in Egypt under an edict of death, yet he fled to the Promised Land. God used him to deliver numerous people from slavery in Egypt. That's the lower story.

Read John 3:16-21

Who did God send Jesus to save?

The world!

Jesus was born in the Promised Land under an edict of death, yet fled to Egypt. God used Him to deliver all of His people from bondage to sin, death, and darkness. Herod was only the first in a long line of rulers who tried to stop Jesus, but nothing can stop the plans of God. Moses and Miriam's story of deliverance is a beautiful foreshadowing of the Gospel.

Read Romans 6:6-8

Spend some time reading and considering Romans 6:6-8. Write down your thoughts below:

Thank Jesus for freeing you from slavery to sin so that you can live with Him in the promised land of heaven.

FEBRUARY 8TH

Women

MIRIAM WRAP UP

“But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God,
and that by believing you may have life in His name”

John 20:31

What is something you have learned from Miriam’s story?

Miriam thanked God for delivering her by singing with a tambourine. How do you worship Him?

FEBRUARY 12TH

Women

ABIGAIL PART ONE

“But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God,
and that by believing you may have life in His name”

John 20:31

*Taken from Erin Davis' blog post A Beautiful Calling. Used with permission from
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*Davis, E. (2017, September 28). A Beautiful Calling. [Blog Post]. Retrieved from
<http://www.liesyoungwomenbelieve.com/a-beautiful-calling/>*

After traveling for weeks, I was finally on my way home. All I could think about was seeing my family and sleeping in my own bed again. Then a storm hit, causing my flight to be canceled. I fought hot tears as I stood in line waiting for new flight information. I kept my cool until I stepped up to the counter and met the rude woman working the desk. Her attitude stunk! After a few minutes of her cranky behavior, my calm disguise cracked. I pointed my finger and said (loudly), “You don’t have the right to be rude to me!” Then I turned and marched myself in the opposite direction. As soon as I rounded the corner, I collapsed in a heap of tears. What is it about uncalled for rudeness that rattles us so much?

As I look back on that airport encounter, I’m not proud of my response. If I had that moment to do over again, I would choose to respond with humility and kindness instead of anger and frustration. I wish I’d been more like Abigail.

Before we look at the details of Abigail’s life, let’s examine the backstory...

Read 1 Samuel 16:1-13.

David was anointed by the prophet Samuel as the next king of Israel.

Read 1 Samuel 23:15.

That was good news for David, but it was not such good news for Saul, the reigning king of Israel. Knowing David would someday take his throne sent Saul into a jealous rage, and he set out to kill David.

Read 1 Samuel 24:1-15

David had an opportunity to kill Saul instead, but he didn't take it. He chose to honor Saul and his authority.

David and his men were on the run and living in the wilderness when they met Abigail and her husband, Nabal.

FEBRUARY 15TH

Women



ABIGAIL PART TWO

“But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God,
and that by believing you may have life in His name”

John 20:31

Read 1 Samuel 25:2–11. Highlight/underline anything that stands out to you.
How is Abigail described?

How is her husband described?

Abigail is described as “discerning and beautiful.” Her husband, on the other hand was “harsh and badly behaved.” What a difference!

Fast forward to 1 Samuel 25:23–24. Highlight/underline anything that stands out to you.

How would you describe Abigail's reaction?

I'd describe Abigail's reaction as humble and kind. God's Word encourages us to have the same attitude as Abigail. Humility can be a slightly tricky concept to grasp (and to live).

How would you describe humility?

It means to trade in our wants and needs for the wants and needs of others.

Read Colossians 3:12 This verse lists five virtues we should "put on" as God's chosen ones. Write down the 5 virtues:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

FEBRUARY 17TH

Women

ABIGAIL PART THREE

“But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God,
and that by believing you may have life in His name”
John 20:31

What is the main difference between Nabal (the husband) and Abigail?

The primary difference between Nabal and Abigail wasn't in their words and attitudes, but in their hearts.

Read Luke 6:45 What does this verse mean?

Our words and actions reveal the true condition of our hearts. Grab your Bible and a pen, and I will show you what I mean:

Go back through 1 Samuel 25, and underline every time you see the word lord in lowercase. Circle every time you see the word Lord in uppercase. (The fancy word for writing in our Bibles is “annotating,” short for “add notes to.” It’s my favorite way to understand Scripture.)

Abigail referred to David as lord, showing him honor as the future king. But she referred to God as Lord, demonstrating her trust and surrender to Him.

What does Abigail’s words reveal about her heart?

If Abigail’s words revealed what was on her heart, she was a woman fully surrendered to God as her true King and David as her future king. Eventually, Abigail became royalty herself, marrying David and accompanying him to the palace where he reigned for forty years.

Read 1 Samuel 25:39-42

But first, Abigail was a daughter of the true King. She was able to respond to a rude husband and to an angry future king with kindness and humility because she trusted the Lord.

FEBRUARY 19TH

Women



ABIGAIL WRAP UP

“But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God,
and that by believing you may have life in His name”

John 20:31

What is something you have learned from Abigail’s story?

We cannot face difficult people gracefully on our own. Pride seems to come more naturally to us than humility. There are moments when each of us wants to respond with anger or bitterness rather than kindness. Abigail’s story reminds us that it is only because of our relationship with the Lord that we can respond rightly to others.

Read [John 14:26](#). Consider how the Holy Spirit is described in this verse. How do you need the Holy Spirit to help you today?