



Welcome to the *Combined Edition* of **Women's Bible Study**

A Ministry of Autumn Ridge Church

Dear Friends,

Half of your small group leaders have just been away on a retreat at Elizabeth Lodge this past weekend and the other half are having one next weekend. The purpose of this time together is to build community among the leaders and to deepen our spiritual lives at the same time. Not to say that it is all serious...there was a great deal of laughter last week and I expect there will be next week as well. If you think of it, pray for us, and take a moment to encourage your small group leaders. It's a big commitment and this ministry could not go on without them.

Our passage today covers one of the most heartrending prayers in the whole Bible – Jesus' prayer for obedience in the Garden of Gethsemane before going to the cross on Good Friday. In those moments he had to come to terms with the coming suffering and loss he would experience in being obedient to his Father's will. But he knew it was coming, for throughout his ministry he acknowledged his desire to be obedient: "For I have come down from heaven to do the will of God who sent me, not to do my own will." (John 6:38)

I think Luke 22:39-44 is a helpful passage to ponder. Each of us will, at some point in our lives, be faced with a situation that we cannot change and which we do not want. How will we accept the cup that our Heavenly Father hands us? With grace or with rebellion? Jesus' obedience came at a great cost to himself, but it accomplished the greatest purpose. And usually the most dreadful situations in our lives have the greatest potential for glorifying God, depending upon how we handle them.

"Always be joyful. Never stop praying." (1 Thess. 5:16-17).

Your friend,

Gretchen Steer

If you are ***new to Women's Bible Study today***, please visit us at the registration table so we can place you in a small group (AM) or at a table group (PM).

January 27, 2010

The Heart's Cry for Obedience

Today's teaching lecture from Luke 22:39-44 is by
MICHELLE HARRIS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sweets for the Soul, A Retreat For Women, will take place February 19-21, 2010, in Trego, WI. The Guest Speaker is Teresa Rinker of Healing Hearts Ministries and the worship leader is ARC's own Mollie Baker. You can register online at www.autumnridgechurch.org.

Devoted Hearts' annual women's conference is April 23-24, 2010, at Autumn Ridge. This year's theme is "The Treasure of Truth" and the keynote speaker is Jan Silvius. Friday evening will feature a special concert by the five-time, GMA Music Award-winning group Selah. Meredith Andrews will lead worship throughout the weekend. Tickets are available at Christos Book Center or for additional information or group registration visit www.devotedheartsrochester.com.

****Next Wednesday, February 3, small groups will meet for brunch or dessert gatherings. Please check with your group leaders to confirm your meeting location.***

****We will resume our prayer series on Wednesday, February 10, when Gretchen Steer will be teaching on "The Heart's Cry for Healing" from James 5:13-16.***

****On February 17, 2010, there will be no Women's Bible Study so you are free to attend the Evening Ash Wednesday service.***

All of our weekly materials are available at <http://autumnridgechurch.org/adult/women/womens-bible-study.html>. If you have questions during the week please Contact Michelle Johnson, ARC Women's Ministry and WBS Administrative Assistant at 288-8880 or marthatoo@hotmail.com or e-mail us at wbs@autumnridgechurch.org.

Incllement weather policy reminder: If the Rochester Public Schools are canceled or start late on any Wednesday, WBS AM AND PM are both cancelled for that day. Check the website for updates or contact us at wbs@autumnridgechurch.org if you have any questions.



The Heart's Cry for Obedience

Luke 22:39-44

Michelle Harris

3 Observations:

1. *Obedience is a battle and prayer is _____.*

2. *Obedience comes when we've cultivated a life of _____.*

3. *The rewards of praying the prayer for obedience _____.*

A Prayer for Obedience:

Savior, Teach Me, Day by Day

*Savior, teach me, day by day
Love's sweet lesson to obey;
Sweeter lesson cannot be,
Loving Him who first loved me.*

*With a child's glad heart of love,
At Thy bidding may I move,
Prompt to serve and follow thee,
Loving Him who first loved me.*

*Teach me thus Thy steps to trace,
Strong to follow in Thy grace,
Learning how to love from Thee,
Loving Him who first loved me.*

*Love in loving finds employ,
In obedience all her joy;
Ever new that joy will be,
Loving Him who first love me.*

*(A Christian Hymn written by
Jane E. Leeson 1807-1882)*

Please remember to pray for *Tanner Fiek*, who is having open heart surgery on Friday, January 29. Tanner, a sixth grader, is the son of Yolanda and Brian Fiek and grandson of Geri and Rusty Fiek (Geri and Yolanda attend the morning study). Please pray for a successful surgery and peace of mind as he anticipates his hospital stay. Thanks for your prayers.