

**WIT**

A Women's Church Ministry  
First Baptist Belleview, FL

Our goal: Helping women reach beyond their circumstances by discovering strength through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

**WIT MINISTRIES**

1. JAIL MINISTRY
2. CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL
3. WORDS OF HOPE JAIL PEN PAL MINISTRY
4. TRANSITIONAL HOME
5. RECOVERY PROGRAM
6. LIFE SKILLS CLASSES
7. WEEKLY NEWSLETTER
8. FOREIGN MISSIONS: ZAMBIA
9. WEB SITE

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

SUNDAY

CHURCH SERVICES  
10:45 AM & 6:30 PM  
WIT SUNDAY SCHOOL  
9:30 - 10:30 AM

MONDAY

LIFE SKILLS CLASSES 7 - 8:30 PM

TUESDAY

CHRISTIAN 12-STEP RECOVERY  
Sunday School Room 7 - 8:30 PM

WEDNESDAY

BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER  
6:30 - 7:30 PM

THURSDAY

WIT HOME BIBLE STUDY 7 - 8:30 PM

**WIT LEADERSHIP TEAM**

DIRECTOR: Dee Hillman  
Director Emeritus: Ann Kuefner  
CO-DIRECTORS:  
Kathy Andriola, Vinelle Miller  
Diana Hite

**CORE TEAM MEMBERS:**

Mona Ballard, Sandra Brewer,  
Moggie Dobbs, Terrie Hudson,  
Laura Jolley, Rosie Lacrone,  
Colleen Malito, Denise Martel,  
Sylvia Pope, Nydia Mechan,  
Debra Pena, Brenda Seaman,  
Sunny Sifford, Anna Thompson

**"What is Christian leadership?"**

What is Christian leadership? What should a Christian leader be like? There is no finer example for Christian leadership than our Lord Jesus Christ. He declared, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep" ([John 10:11](#)). It is within this verse that we see the perfect description of a Christian leader.

When Jesus referred to us as "sheep," He was not speaking in affectionate terms. In truth, sheep rank among the dumbest animals in creation. A stray sheep, still within earshot of the herd, becomes disoriented, confused, frightened, and incapable of finding its way back to the flock. Unable to ward off hungry predators, the stray is perhaps the most helpless of all creatures. Entire herds of sheep are known to have drowned during times of flash flooding even in sight of easily accessible higher ground. Like it or not, when Jesus called us His sheep, He was saying that without a shepherd, we are helpless.

The shepherd is one who has several roles in regard to his sheep. He leads, feeds, nurtures, comforts, corrects and protects. The shepherd of the Lord's flock leads by modeling godliness and righteousness in his own life and encouraging others to follow his example. Of course, our ultimate example—and the One we should follow—is Christ Himself). The Christian leader is one who follows Christ and inspires others to follow Him as well.

The Christian leader is also a feeder and nourisher of the sheep, and the ultimate "sheep food" is the Word of God. Just as the shepherd leads his flock to the most lush pasture so they will grow and flourish, so the Christian leader nourishes his flock with the only food which will produce strong, vibrant Christians. The Bible—not psychology or the world's wisdom—is the only diet that can produce healthy Christians. "Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD" ([Deuteronomy 8:3](#)).

The Christian leader also comforts the sheep, binding up their wounds and applying the balm of compassion and love. As the great Shepherd of Israel, the Lord Himself promised to "bind up the injured and strengthen the weak" ([Ezekiel 34:16](#)). As Christians in the world today, we suffer many injuries to our spirits, and we need compassionate leaders who will bear our burdens with us, sympathize with our circumstances, exhibit patience toward us, encourage us in the Word, and bring our concerns before the Father's throne.

Just as the shepherd used his crook to pull a wandering sheep back into the fold, so the Christian leader corrects and disciplines those in his care when they go astray. Without rancor or an overbearing spirit, but with a "spirit of gentleness" ([Galatians 6:2](#)), those in leadership must correct according to scriptural principles. Correction or discipline is never a pleasant experience for either party, but the Christian leader who fails in this area is not exhibiting love for those in his care. "The LORD disciplines those he loves" ([Proverbs 3:12](#)).

The final role of the Christian leader is that of protector. The shepherd who was lax in this area soon found that he regularly lost sheep to the predators who prowled around—and sometimes among—his flock. The predators today are those who try to lure the sheep away with false doctrine, dismissing the Bible as quaint and old fashioned, insufficient, unclear, or unknowable. These lies are spread by those against whom Jesus warned us: "Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves" ([Matthew 7:15](#)). Christ alone is the way of salvation: "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me" ([John 14:6](#)).

A final word on Christian leaders comes from the article "Wanted: A Few Good Shepherds (Must Know How to Wash Feet)" by John MacArthur:

"Under the plan God has ordained for the church, leadership is a position of humble, loving service. Church leadership is ministry, not management. Those whom God designates as leaders are called not to be governing monarchs, but humble slaves; not slick celebrities, but laboring servants. Those who would lead God's people must above all exemplify sacrifice, devotion, submission, and lowliness. Jesus Himself gave us the pattern when He stooped to wash His disciples' feet, a task that was customarily done by the lowest of slaves ([John 13](#)). If the Lord of the universe would do that, no church leader has a right to think of himself as a bigwig."



## JESUS DESIRES A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH YOU!



**Begin by reading HIS "Love Letter," the Bible.**

Before you begin, pray:

"Lord, please grant me a new depth of wisdom and understanding for Your Will in my life. Help me to turn from my sins and follow you more closely!"

(Initial the blank following the verse, after you complete it.)

**Monday: 1 John 4:18-** "Where God's love is, there is no fear, because God's perfect love takes away fear. It is his punishment that makes a person fear. So his love is not made perfect in the one who has fear." (ERV)\_\_\_\_\_

You fear what you don't understand, and you can't love what you fear. So in order to love other people, you must seek to understand them. How can you start to understand and show love to someone today?

**Tuesday: 2 Corinthians 3:3-** "You show that you are a letter from Christ that he sent through us. This letter is not written with ink but with the Spirit of the living God. It is not written on stone tablets but on human hearts." (ERV)\_\_\_\_\_

Your life is a letter. What kind of a letter are you? What do the people in your life learn about God when they read you? How are you letting Christ write your life?

**Wednesday: Joshua 10:13-14-** "...So the sun did not move, and the moon stopped until the people defeated their enemies. This story is written in the Book of Jashar. The sun stopped in the middle of the sky. It did not move for a full day. That had never happened before, and it has never happened again. That was the day the Lord obeyed a man. The Lord really was fighting for Israel!" (ERV)\_\_\_\_\_

Do you ever feel like your prayers don't do much? God has changed history and the course of nature just because of His children's prayers. Who knows what God might do because of your prayer today! Are most of your prayers for big things or little things?

**Thursday: Colossians 4:5-** "Be wise in the way you act with those who are not believers. Use your time in the best way you can." (ERV)\_\_\_\_\_

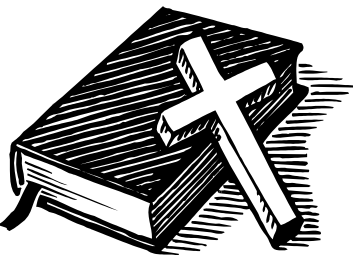
Don't know what to say to people about Jesus? Just tell them about your relationship with Him. And pray that your conversation will be "gracious." What does it mean to "live wisely" among non-Christians?

**Friday: Romans 14:13-** "So we should stop judging each other. Let's decide not to do anything that will cause a problem for a brother or sister or hurt their faith." (ERV)\_\_\_\_\_

Maybe you tend to criticize people. But your friends need to hear you like being with them. Your teachers need to be encouraged. Your parents want to know you still love them. Your siblings need to see you care. List five people you could "stop passing judgment on" today.

**Saturday: Psalm 42:1-** "Like a deer drinking from a stream, I reach out to you, my God." (ERV)\_\_\_\_\_

How many times will you take a drink today? For most people, drinking is a natural way to quench a natural thirst. Reading the Bible and praying is a natural way to quench a spiritual thirst. How many times will you take a spiritual drink today?



**"I run in the path of your commands,  
for you have set my heart free."**

**Psalm 119: 32 (NIV)**

## IN TOUCH WITH OUR WORLD



Dear Kathy,

Today, I read and gathered a small sampling of email letters for you and the WIT Newsletter readers to enjoy. These letters are in response to people discovering and reading the WIT Web Site. I am amazed how God has used the WIT Web Site to encourage others for good works and, ultimately, for God's glory. The work WIT has accomplished has literally become a *witness for Christ around the world*.

Amazingly, 9,538 people have read "What does Salvation Mean?" and 7,560 people have gone on to read "Steps to Understand and Receive Salvation." We will never know all the readers who have come to accept Jesus as their Savior and Lord until we get to heaven! What a harvest it will be!

As Paul told the Galatians, "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

Let us keep serving together in Christ's love,  
Ann

**(Ann Kuefner is the Director Emeritus of Women in Truth Ministries. She and her husband, Bob, live in Dawsonville, Georgia, where they actively serve the Lord!)**

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**Zambia:** I just want to thank the almighty God for giving you people the ministry of WIT. We thank God for it because it helps the women, and it teaches them to know Jesus and brings back the lost souls to Christ Jesus. May God continue protecting the WIT Ministry as they share God's Word. May God richly bless you and bless you with the resources for the ministry. Much love, David Phiri (Son of Stellia Phiri, WIT Director in Zambia)

**Kenya:** Praise God! I am happy to connect with you after I have read through your ministry web site for the last 6 months. I am the founder and pastor of a small church here in Kenya.

**Unidentified Country:** The work you are doing is great. I was in a prison for 3 months ..... and I know how female inmates feel. I wish to start a WIT ministry in my country. I write to seek your advice, thank you.

**Tanzania:** My husband and I are pastors here in Mbeya, Tanzania in a church called House of Freedom Church. In our church we have a program called Women Empowerment, where we train women in out-fitting (dresses), making free of charge for six months. We have eight sewing machines.

**India:** Greetings in Jesus' name. I feel very happy to write to you. I have been spiritually touched and inspired by your Women in Truth Ministries, and I have learned many good things from the web site. We are a nondenominational church, and we are proclaiming the good news and God's word to the poor people, physically handicapped and even to the leprosy patients. ....We have a small ministry in Visakhapatnam in the part of Andhra Pradesh. Our ministry name is JESUS TOUCH IN ACTION. We have a vision to serve the poor people through our ministry and to impact their lives with the Gospel.

### **Bujumbura-Burundi-- Central-Africa**

I greet you in Jesus name, I'm Pastor Butoyi Magnifique of Mount Calvary Church, Bujumbura-Burundi. It is such a blessing to see your web site and many works God is doing in your life and in your ministry. Praise God. Our desire is to be in touch and invite your ministry to our country Burundi. I believe together we will bring the glory of God to all nations. ....We love you and are praying for you. Please send our love to brothers and sisters in Christ.

**United States:** I have been incredibly blessed by stumbling upon this web site! The Lord literally called me quite unexpectedly about 6 months ago to have a heart for women who are incarcerated. I began working in a local City Mission prison ministry in a mostly administrative role but lately I had been asking God to lead if He wanted me to do more. Then I came on your web site. I would like to begin by starting a Pen Pal ministry at my church. ....Thank you so much for all that you do for the cause of my precious Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. May the number of souls saved through the seeds planted by your ministry continue to multiply so that many more will be saved.

# CLASS



# NEWS

**CHERRILL CAMP** phoned to say hello! She is living in Panama City and hopes to stop by for a visit in February on her way to Orlando's "Holy Land Experience."

**PENNY WELCH**, grandmother of **KALEY DOZIER**, writes: "Kaley is still in Georgia. She is working and seems to be happy. Just keep her in your prayers."

**DEE HILLMAN** enjoyed the weekend of January 27th in Atlanta with her son and daughter-in-law, **TREY & KATIE HILLMAN** and friends.

The **GOSPEL TRUTH MINISTRY** meets at 9:00 each Saturday at the Market of Marion Flea Market to share the Good News of Jesus Christ in our community. This is a ministry of First Baptist Church of Belleview under the leadership of **MARC MOORE**. Join them as they walk the aisles of Market of Marion!

**CINA GADSON** continues to lead the WIT Home Thursday night Bible Study under the discipleship of **DEE HILLMAN**. We praise God for what He is doing in and through Cina!

**DEBRA PENA** joined us in Sunday School on January 29th! Pray God's strength for her as she ministers to the needs of teenaged mothers at the **HOME (Hands of Mercy Everwhere)** in Belleview, Florida.

**VINELLE MILLER** traveled to Eatonville, Florida with her sister, **LINDA MILLER**, for the annual "**Zora Neale Hurston Festival**" the weekend of January 27th. The two sisters are thankful for the times they can get away together, as they both juggle work and family responsibilities. Praise God for restoring their relationship!

## WOMEN IN TRUTH JAIL MINISTRY

### FEBRUARY PRAYER REQUEST:

**SUN, FEB 19 & TUES, FEB 21:**

*"Open their hearts, dear Lord, to Your saving grace! May they surrender to You."*

## HAPPY FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY!



- Feb 3** Diana McGaw
- Feb 19** Dee Hillman
- Feb 21** Cindy Geer
- Feb 26** Kennedy Dalrymple

## PRAY! ASK GOD TO REVEAL HOW HE WILL USE YOU FOR THE: WIT Zambia Mission Trip July 28-August 7, 2012



- ◆ Pray God's guidance for Zambia WIT Ministry Director **STELLIA PHIRI** as she prepares for the 2012 WIT Zambia Mission Trip.
- ◆ Pray for that God will give those He is calling peace about all the preparation details!

Contact **Kathy Andriola (352-245-1720 or kandr413@aol.com)** before or by **February 5th to sign up.**



### Biblical Financial Tip:

*"Write it down. Walk away from it. Pray about it."*



## NEWSFLASH



Gene Andriola is planning a yard sale to raise funds for the WIT Zambia Mission Trip. If you can help, please call/email him at:

**352-245-1720 (home) 352-682-0672(cell) gk1194@aol.com**

## WEEKLY WIT CALENDAR

<u>Monday</u>	Life Skills class- 7:00-8:30pm
<u>Tuesday</u>	12-Step Recovery Classes- 7:00 - 8:30pm
<u>Wednesday</u>	Prayer/Bible Study 6:30- 7:30pm-FBC
<u>Thursday</u>	WIT Home Bible Study-7:00-8:30pm

## MONTHLY SPECIAL EVENTS

<u>Wed, Feb 8</u>	WIT Home Interviews/MCJ-7:00-10:00pm
<u>Sun, Feb 19</u>	MCJ Jail Services-1:00-5:00pm
<u>Tue, Feb 21</u>	MCJ Jail Services-7:30-9:30pm

## February Calendar of Events

### Monday Life Skills

**7:00-8:00pm**

February 6- "**Forgiving Yourself**"-WIT Home with Vinelle Miller

February 13- "**TO BE ANNOUNCED**" -WIT Home with Moggie Dobbs

February 20- "**Pampered Chef Cuisine**"-WIT Home with Anna Thompson

February 27- "**Praying God's Will**"-WIT Home with Terrie Hudson

Women of all ages are welcome! Sign up in Sunday School class or call Kathy Andriola at 245-1720 or email at kandr413@aol.com.