

The Distaff



Seminary Wives Newsletter



March 2008 Edition

*But have nothing to do with worldly fables fit only for old women. On the other hand, discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness; for bodily discipline is only of little profit, but godliness is profitable for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.
1 Timothy 4:7-8*



Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise in His name to all the nations, beginning with Jerusalem. again from the dead the third day, and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed

Luke 24:47

Calendar

*March 5-7 ~ Shepherds' Conference No Meetings
March 12 ~ Panel - Questions and Answers
March 19th ~ Tea and Testimonies Final Meeting*

Words of Wisdom

"The vigour of our spiritual life will be in exact proportion to the place held by the Bible in our life and thoughts."

*by
George Mueller*

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Recipe of the Month

Creative Omelets for a Gathering!!
Teri White

Quart size freezer bags
Sharpie to write name on your bag
1 large boiling pot

Ingredients:

Eggs, Grated Cheese; any kind
Ham, Salsa, Mushrooms
Onion, Tomatoes, Peppers

Helpful Hints & Links

Helpful hints submitted by Janel Kirby:

Do you have a child who sucks their thumb or fingers and needs to stop? This product really works: "Mavala Stop" available at Amazon.com. Like fingernail polish you brush onto the fingernails clear. Stops the habit in 2 weeks or less.

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Household cleaners that are environmentally friendly alternatives

1 tablespoon of Milk
1 teaspoon Butter
Salt and Pepper

Directions:

Fill large pot with water
Bring to a rolling boil

Crack 2 eggs into a freezer bag
Shake up; Add ingredients of choice
Shake up; Make sure *all* air is out of the bag
Close bag tightly
Place in boiling water for 13-15 minutes

The most fluffy omelets you will ever taste!!
You can place
from 6-8 bags in pot at a time.
This is a fun time because everyone gets
involved and they
get to choose what they would like in their
omelet.

Serve with toast, zucchini or banana bread,
fruit and
orange juice



and are inexpensive, readily available
at: [http://www.passionatehomemaking.com
/?s=cleaners](http://www.passionatehomemaking.com/?s=cleaners)

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All-Purpose: 1/2 c. vinegar, 1/4 c. baking soda, 1/2
gal water

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Window cleaner: vinegar or the all-purpose cleaner

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Disinfectant: 2 tsp borax, 4 Tbls vinegar, 3 cups hot
water

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Scouring powder: baking soda

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Natural Abrasive: salt & toothpaste, apply to scrubby
or
directly on surface

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Dusting powder: vinegar, olive oil

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Furniture polish: vinegar, food-grade lemon oil, or 1
c.
olive oil and 1/2 c lemon juice

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Fabric softener: baking soda

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Silver polish: baking soda, salt, toothpaste

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Mold/mildew: vinegar or lemon juice at full strength,
with
small amount of salt

www.girltalk.blogs.com

*A daily conversation on things relating to biblical
womanhood*



Book of the Month Review

Wilson, Nancy. *The Fruit of Her Hands: Respect and the Christian Woman*. Moscow, ID:
Cannon Press, 1997.

109 pp. \$12.00 and under.

Reviewed by Rachel Powell, wife of TMS student Gabriel Powell.

I often find myself wondering if I am really doing all that I should to fulfill my God given roles
of wife and mother in a way
that would please the Lord. Ephesians 5:22-24 and Titus 2:3-5 are wonderful, convicting
passages of Scripture for wives,
but Christian women can be left wondering about the practical application of these truths.
For example, "How do I show my husband that I respect him?"

For those women with similar questions about Biblical womanhood, Nancy Wilson's book *The
Fruit of Her Hands* is a helpful resource. Nancy is a pastor's wife, now a grandmother, who
shares from her heart what she has learned and practiced based on God's Word. The first

chapter, "A Woman's Orientation to Marriage," discusses the problem of being led astray from a Biblical understanding of a woman's role and calls readers back to being "women of the Word".

"We must determine to be obedient to the Word of God no matter what it says, with no compromises. This is what it means to be a woman of the Word. We must find out what the Bible teaches about marriage and children, about men and women and their roles, and then we must be obedient with no apologies, no matter what the cost. Is this radical Christianity? No. This is basic Christianity."

(15)

In subsequent chapters, the author exhorts women to personal Bible study, contentment and joyfully fulfilling the duties

of a homemaker. Her chapter on respect gives practical advice on demonstrating respect. The chapter entitled "Principles and Methods" discusses maintaining loving relationships among Christian sisters. Understanding God's plan for the husband-wife relationship, choosing friends wisely, and learning how to take criticism are among the many helpful and convicting points in this book. I was struck by how straightforward the author is; one can quite easily read through the book in one day yet come away convicted about both attitudes and practice in many areas.

This book has been a source of great encouragement to me about what it means to be a Christian wife and mother.

You have the privilege of being God's appointed helper for him. Have a high view of this calling and a biblical view of your responsibilities associated with the calling. Your view will improve as you apply God's teaching. Your husband will appreciate your obedience and will be set free to live up to all God has called him to be. You will find yourself living in a home with a lovely view." (18)

TMS Semwives Disclaimer:

While we recommend many different resources for your consideration we also encourage you, the reader, to be like the Bereans who could receive a message (book) with eagerness and then examine the message against the truth of Scripture. ~ Acts 17:11

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Testimony by Alaina Peppers, wife of Jonathan, first year student

My husband and I have been asked many times why he left a senior pastorate of 4 years to come to seminary. The short answer is "God made the decision very clear." But let me share with you the longer version of God's amazing work in our lives: Eleven years ago, when my husband and I were newly married, he told me that he would love to attend The Master's Seminary. Upon learning that TMS was located in S. CA, I put TMS out of my mind. However, the Lord did not remove it from my husband's heart. A few years later, my husband was pastoring his first church and things were not going well. Jonathan applied to the seminary.

The doors were firmly shut and all of our pushing did not gain us anything. We accepted it as God's will. I accepted it with great contentment and my husband accepted it with great disappointment. We were asked by the leadership to leave that first church. The reason: "Too much Bible in the preaching." We then moved to CT for 2 years and did some ministry there. My husband became good friends with three TMS graduates who were so encouraging to us. After that, we moved back to GA and Jonathan pastored his third church. It had problems but the majority of the people were very responsive to the preaching of the Word of God and the people loved our family. So it was a great shock when 3 years into service at that church, at the urging of those TMS grads in CT and NY that Jonathan applied again to the seminary (thank you to those graduates!). Jonathan sent in the application and was accepted in February of 2006. We were to be on campus by August of 2007. But where would we live? How could we pay for school? Where would he work? What about all the debt we had accumulated with our moves and baby expenses? Why would we leave a good church??? Who in the world would want to live in LA!!! So we prayed. My husband prayed with sincerity and I prayed with no

desire but guilt that I didn't want what my husband really desired. My girlfriend asked me one day, "What would it take for you to be convinced that God wants you to go to CA?" My response was a safe fleece, "We would have to have all our debt paid off." That was safe because how in the world could our \$18,000 be wiped away when we don't play the lottery? Within 3 months of giving her my answer (by November 2006) all our debt was paid off. The person who paid it off wrote their checks directly to our credit card companies. We did not even have to pay taxes on this great gift and we are not expected to pay any of it back. I realized then that I had put my God in a box and He refused to be held there. How Big and Awesome is Our Great God!!! The questions still remained where would we live and how would we pay for this? Do we just drive out there and see what happens? It was all very scary. So in March 2007, we saw an ad in the opportunity sheet for a part-time music position. I encouraged Jonathan to call because while music is not his first love, he is very good at it and maybe this part-time position would at least pay the rent. He called and talked to the pastor of Lighthouse Bible Church for over an hour. Then the pastor called us back and asked us to come visit. They flew us out in April, and we enjoyed the weekend but it seemed like they were going to a lot of effort over a part-time position. Two weeks after our visit, the pastor called back and offered a parsonage in one of the safest suburbs, full medical coverage, the payment of our TMS bill and a small salary. We could never have guessed that God would lay it on the hearts of these elders to really help us through seminary. We made the move in June. It was very hard to leave our family and friends, but God had left no questions in our minds that this was His plan. We are living very tightly here, but God continues to provide and, in doing so, reassures us that we belong here. God has really amazed us through this process; and, along the way, I have learned that LA really isn't too bad!!!