

HEART to HEART

women's ministry newsletter

CALVARY MURRIETA

MARCH 2017

THE ELEPHANT WHISPERER

Recently Brian and I went to Thailand to spend the Christmas break with our daughter Mical and her husband Tyler. I can't even begin to tell you how much fun we had visiting all the places they wanted to take us, seeing all the touristy sights, and enjoying so much amazing food. We laughed, drank coffee, took a Thai cooking class, went to the movies, shopped, and more. One of our favorite things we did was spend about five hours at an elephant recovery center. In Thailand, elephants are extremely popular and tourists love to ride, feed, and play with them. Sadly, because there's so much money to be had, elephants have become

victimized and not always cared for properly, so I'm told. The elephants we visited were rescued from bad conditions and nursed back to health and now are well taken care of. We did not ride them, but we fed them, bathed them, and played in the water with them. It was a wonderful experience, to say the least. The man who owned this center had a true, genuine, love for each one of the elephants. We had heard of the owner and his love for the elephants, but was never introduced to him. At one point in the day, a man came and began walking around the camp. As he walked, he'd whistle under his breathe or say words very softly. I'm not exactly sure what he was saying, but as soon as he uttered a word, those elephants lifted their heads, stood up tall, and

moved towards the sound of his voice. No matter what they were doing, they stopped and followed him. He soon became known as the "Elephant Whisperer." When I found out he was the owner, the story in John 10 about Jesus being our Good Shepherd immediately came to mind. Verse 27 says, "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me." As sheep hear the voice of their shepherd, their ears perk up and immediately they recognize him. They know how much he loves them, how much he cares about them, and how valued there are by him. They trust him. Our goal in life is to learn how to hear and recognize the voice of our Good Shepherd like that! The elephants simply knew how much that owner loved them and valued them, and all they wanted to do was follow him and be with him. Lord, please make me like a sheep, make me like one of those sweet elephants. Help me learn how to better recognize Your voice in the midst of all the other voices around me. Help me to discern Your voice above that of my own. And Lord, help me to move beyond simply "hearing" You to following You, which is the mark of the true disciple.

Happy March ladies! Listen for His voice! May it bring joy and refreshment to your soul.



Koelly



HEARTY BEEF & VEGETABLE STEW

Recipe Serves 6
Prep Time: 20 min
Cooking Time: 45 min

Ingredients

- 3 Tbsp. corn oil
- 1 lb. beef round steak, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 large green bell pepper, chopped
- 1 large tomato, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 1 lb. green cabbage, cut into 2-inch pieces
- 1 lb. calabaza pumpkin or butternut squash, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 1/2 lb. all-purpose potatoes, peeled and cut into 1-inch cubes
- 2 cubes Knorr Beef flavor Bouillon Cubes
- 4 1/4 cups water
- 1 envelope Knorr Sazon with Garlic and Onion
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. ground black pepper
- 1 can (15.5 oz.) chick peas or garbanzos, rinsed and drained
- 3 Tbsp. cornstarch

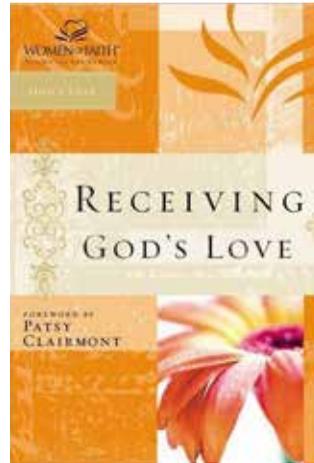
Directions:

- In large saucepot, heat oil over medium-high heat and brown steak, stirring occasionally, about 10 minutes. Remove steak and set aside.
- In same saucepot, add onion, green pepper, tomato and garlic and cook, stirring frequently, 2 minutes. Return steak to saucepot. Stir in cabbage, pumpkin, potatoes, Knorr® Beef flavor Bouillon Cubes blended with 4 cups water, Knorr® Sazon All Purpose Seasoning, salt and black pepper. Bring to a boil over high heat, stirring to dissolve bouillon. Reduce heat to low and simmer covered, stirring occasionally, 25 minutes or until potatoes are fork-tender. Stir in chick peas.
- In small bowl, blend remaining 1/4 cup water with cornstarch until smooth; stir into beef stew. Bring to a boil over medium heat. Reduce heat and cook, stirring frequently, 1 minute or until stew thickens.

Book Review

From

Barb Costley



Receiving God's Love is a study guide by Women of Faith. I decided I needed to read something simple and sweet so that I could focus on God's love and not the problems of this world, at least for just a little while. This book is sectioned into a 12 week study but can easily be done in 6 weeks which would bring us right to Easter Sunday. I can't think of a better way to prepare our hearts and minds for Easter than on

a study reminding us of God's amazing love!

"Whether we are new believers or we've been friends of God for years, we all need to be reminded that we are precious to God. We are lovable, we are lovely, we are loving, we are beloved!" This course will help to remind us of the unconditional and unwavering love of God as we try to comprehend the height, width, breadth and depth of God's incredible love for US!

Each chapter contains a theme backed by Scripture to read, ponder, and pray. At the end of each chapter is "Trinkets to Treasure," which is based on a tradition of the Women of Faith conference where we are asked to imagine that a gift has been placed in our hands which reminds us of the different lessons shared. At the close of each chapter we will be given a symbol to remind us of the things we have learned. It is like a souvenir or treasure to have in our hearts to keep us from forgetting the things of God we have learned. My favorite trinket is... "The little piglet...the runt of the litter that will remind me of the joy of being chosen, and that God chose me, not because I am so desirable, but because I need Him!"

CALVARY MURRIETA

Missionaries

THE RAMSEY FAMILY RUSSIA



MIKE & LORIE

SERVING IN:

Asia

SERVING WITH:
Shepherds Staff



• the Ramsey Adventures •

Under the Weather

Being sick in a foreign country comes with unique challenges. Last week we arrived back from a short trip to the Philippines to celebrate the 15th anniversary of CC Iloilo (more on that later). As soon as we got back, both of us began to feel a bit under the weather. Maybe it was caused by the drastic change in temperature between the two countries; or maybe it was all the planes, buses, taxis, and boats we traveled on to get there and back; or maybe it's a springtime allergy; or maybe it's just a cold. I don't know, but we had the whole thing – sinus pressure, stuffy nose, running nose, red eyes, and scratchy throat. Not serious enough for a doctor, just bad enough to knock you down and make you miserable.

I have a small amount of Benadryl I brought from the States in case of emergency, but if I take it, I will be asleep for a week (no joke). So, I opted to be miserable without any medicine. After all, you can't run down to Walgreens and pick up some Sudafed or Mucinex! So, you have to look for alternatives. Still feeling miserable himself, my awesome husband went out to see what he could find for me. He came home with a humidifier and this cute little teapot that he thought I could use like a Neti pot (if you don't know what that is, please look it up). Now, I'm a tea lover and I have to admit, I felt bad defiling this beautiful teapot by shoving it's spout up my nose. It seems to deserve so much better! But after all, it does say in 2 Timothy 2:20 that in a house there are many vessels "some for honorable use, some for dishonorable" right? :) So after getting the right salt to water ratio, up the nose it went.

I'm happy to report that it worked. Between the humidifier at night, the Neti pot during the day, and lots of tea with honey and lemon in between, we are breathing freely again. Thanks to the thoughtfulness of my husband and a humble little Chinese teapot. Now I just have to remember to never serve tea out of it!

For updated prayer requests and pictures visit: www.bamboopandas.wordpress.com

calvary murrieta
women's retreat 2017



is for

SEASONS

Ecclesiastes 3:1

march 24-26

twin peaks
conference center

Cost is \$170 per lady.

Registration begins on Sunday, Feb. 12th. You can register and pay in two installments on Sundays in the Info Booth or in the front office during the week.

For more info call 951-677-5667.

I Used to Think...

These quotes are all “I used to think” quotes by Bob Goff. Read them, ponder them, share them. What are some of your “I used to think”s? Share them with people as well!

I used to think being a believer was enough, but now I know Jesus wants us to participate, no matter what condition we're in.

I used to think you had to be special for God to use you, but now I know you simply need to say yes.

I used to think religion tasted horrible, but now I know I was eating the fake stuff.

I used to want to fix people, but now I just want to be with them.

I used to be afraid of failing at something that really mattered to me, but now I'm more afraid of succeeding at things that don't matter.

I used to think I could shape the circumstances around me, but now I know Jesus uses circumstances to shape me.

I used to think Jesus motivated us with ultimatums, but now I know He pursues us in love.

I used to think I had to be somebody important to accomplish things, but now I know Jesus uses ordinary people more.

I used to think knowing God was like going on a business trip with Him, but now I know He's inviting me on an adventure instead.

I used to think God wouldn't talk to me, now I know I'm just selective with what I choose to hear.

I used to be afraid that if I was authentic I might take a hit, but now I know that being real means I will take a hit.

I used to think I should talk about everything, but now I know it's better to keep some things a secret.

I used to think God was good some of the time, but now I know He's good all the time.

I used to think there were some prisons you couldn't escape, but now I know there's no place I can go where God can't rescue us.

I used to think I could learn about Jesus just by studying Him, but now I know Jesus doesn't want stalkers.

I used to think that taking a risk would reduce the number of friends I have, but now I know that love draws more people in.

Living Water

By: Dawn Spice

A few weeks ago on Wednesday night, we were going through 1 Kings chapter 4 and Pastor Brian put out a question to the audience, "What have you seen recently in nature that displayed to you a truth about God?" I couldn't answer from w-a-y back by the sound booth, but I thought about the hills by my house. I live right outside Canyon Lake and if you've ever driven out there you know that the whole road is lined with

“WHEN HE GIVES
LIVING WATER, HE
GIVES HIMSELF
ABUNDANTLY.”

large hills. There are several other hills behind our neighborhood so our home is literally surrounded with them. (hence the Canyon name) Usually these hills are brown, covered in nothing but dirt and rocks. But you may remember a few weeks back we had a huge three-day storm. Well, probably nothing compared to the rainfall found in other areas of the country, but in our little desert that has been stuck in a drought for more than 5 years, it was quite a bit of water in a short amount of time. And on Monday when the storm was over, I noticed that all of the hills around our house were lush and green, I think for the first time since we moved in 4 years ago. They were gorgeous. No other way to describe them but to say they

were full of LIFE. Immediately I was reminded about the living water found in Jesus. It doesn't matter how long we have been dry. Or why. All it takes is a fresh sprinkling of the cleansing and refreshing living water; just a little bit. Because really there is no "little bit" when it comes to the Holy Spirit of God. When He gives living water He gives it-Himself-abundantly. And as soon as that water is poured out, it instantly brings back life, and we, too, can be full of growth.

Have you been in a drought? Dry? Bare? All you need is a "little bit" of the Living Water found through Christ and you can change overnight, just like those dry dusty hills. Interesting though, that the water came with a big storm. He is eager to spring up a well of life for whoever drinks of His water. And maybe the storm you are in right now is the way He will use to pour His living water out on you.

"If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink." John 7:37

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sunday Night of Prayer - March 5th, 6:30 PM in the Agape Room.

Women's Ministry Meeting - March 7th in the Mercy Room.

When Leaders Lead Conference - March 10th-12th at Murrieta Hot Springs Conference Center.

Married Couples Conference - March 10th-11th

Children at Risk Meeting - March 19th

REAL Tuesday - March CANCELLED

Women's Retreat - March 24th-26th

Good Friday Crosswalk - April 14th

Easter Services - April 16th, 7:00 AM, 8:30 AM, 10:00 AM, 11:30 AM

REAL Tuesday - April 25th

BIBLE STUDIES *and* GATHERINGS

ADOPTIVE SUPPORT GROUP

2nd Tuesday of every month
at 7:00 pm, church office.
Call Terri Schroeder at 240-8192.

M.O.M.'S (MOMS ON A MISSION)

Every 1st and 3rd Thursday morning of the month.
9:15 am - 11:15 am
Child care available.
Call Jessica at 698-1951.

"REASONS TO REJOICE" WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Various homes throughout the week.
Call Cindy Chapman at 677-5667.

LADIES CHRISTIAN BOOK CLUB

2nd Wednesday at 11:30 am. Call Debra: 764-0408
3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm. Call Susan: 290-9753

KOINONIA WIDOWS FELLOWSHIP

4th Friday of every month.
Laurie Crandall's home.
Call Laurie Crandall at 951-698-5842.

REAL TUESDAYS

4th Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm,
Call Kelly at 951-677-5667.

SUNDAY NIGHT OF PRAYER

1st Sunday of every month at 6:30 pm,
In the Agape Room.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES



The Sound and Powerpoint Ministry is in need of ladies to assist with services.

Please contact Richard at 813-6026.

Interested in being part of the Welcome Team on Sunday mornings or Wednesday evenings?

Call Donna Hansen at 551-6594.

Nursery helpers needed for all services and Wednesday nights on a rotating basis.

Call Tony Schaffner at 677-5667.

Meals Ministry needs volunteers to prepare meals for those in need.

Call Cindy Chapman 677-5667.

If you'd like to be a part of the Prayer Chain, please call Kristyn at 677-5667.

Article Submissions: If you would like to submit something to the Women's Newsletter; poems, recipes, devotions, ideas, tips, etc., please email submissions to kbell@calvarymurrieta.com



march 2017



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 R & R STUDY 9:15 AM CARE MINISTRY 5:00 PM BIBLE STUDY • 7:00 PM	2 R & R STUDY 9:15 AM MOMS MEETING 9:15 AM - 11:15 AM ROOM 133 R & R STUDY 7:00 PM	3 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	4
5 CHURCH 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM NIGHT OF PRAYER 6:30 PM AGAPE ROOM	6 R & R STUDY 9:15 AM R & R STUDY 7:00 PM	7 R & R STUDY 9:15 AM R & R STUDY 7:00 PM WOMEN'S MINISTRY MEETING 7:00 PM	8 R & R STUDY 9:15 AM CARE MINISTRY 5:00 PM BIBLE STUDY • 7:00 PM	9 R & R STUDY 9:15 AM R & R STUDY 7:00 PM	10 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	11
					WHEN LEADERS LEAD CONFERENCE	
12 CHURCH 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM	13 R & R STUDY 9:15 AM R & R STUDY 7:00 PM	14 R & R STUDY 9:15 AM R & R STUDY 7:00 PM	15 R & R STUDY 9:15 AM LADIES BOOK CLUB 11:30 AM • 764-0408 CARE MINISTRY 5:00 PM BIBLE STUDY • 7:00 PM	16 R & R STUDY 9:15 AM MOMS MEETING 9:15 AM - 11:15 AM ROOM 133 R & R STUDY 7:00 PM	17 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	18
19 CHURCH 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM CHILDREN AT RISK 3:00 PM-5:00 PM AGAPE ROOM	20 R & R STUDY 9:15 AM R & R STUDY 7:00 PM	21 R & R STUDY 9:15 AM R & R STUDY 7:00 PM	22 R & R STUDY 9:15 AM CARE MINISTRY 5:00 PM BIBLE STUDY • 7:00 PM	23	24 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	25
					WOMEN'S RETREAT	
26 CHURCH 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM WOMEN'S RETREAT	27 R & R STUDY 9:15 AM R & R STUDY 7:00 PM	28 R & R STUDY 9:15 AM R & R STUDY 7:00 PM REAL TUESDAY CANCELLED	29 R & R STUDY 9:15 AM CARE MINISTRY 5:00 PM BIBLE STUDY • 7:00 PM	30 R & R STUDY 9:15 AM R & R STUDY 7:00 PM	31 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	