

We are a church with one mission: to grow followers of Jesus through grateful worship, genuine community, and generous service to each other and our world. We believe by loving God and loving people we can have an impact that really matters, and would like to tell you more about that. If you are interested in being a part of what God is doing with us, or just have some questions, **fill out the contact card** or ask the person next to you. **Please feel free to call or email too if you have any questions.**

FAMILY NEWS AND NOTES

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GOD'S FAMILY TIMES

BIBLE CLASSES
Building—9:30 am Sunday

WORSHIP
Building—10:30 am Sunday

GROWTH GROUPS
Grose's -- 6 p.m. Sunday
Tonkin's -- 6 p.m. Sunday

BIBLE CLASSES
Building—7 pm Wednesday

Congregational Meeting: THIS Thursday, October 19th, at 7 p.m. at the building. This is later in the month due to scheduling conflicts!

Dinner before Classes: Wednesday October 25th at 6 p.m.

Ladies' Class for Thursday October 26th has been cancelled. The next class is scheduled for Thursday November 9th at 1 p.m. at the Building. Susan Stutzman will be leading the discussion on "Procrastination".

Mark your calendars for Wednesday November 1st. College Boxes will be packed on that day at the building. More details to follow.

Support for our Betikara lamb, Toavina, for September & October is being collected. Please give your donations **directly** to Sally Duriez

If anyone is interested in donating to the relief of hurricane victims in Houston or Florida, the Churches of Christ Disaster Relief Effort is an excellent choice. More information can be found at disasterrelieffort.org or visit with Sally Duriez who recently visited their warehouse. Checks can be made payable to Disaster Relief Effort, Inc. and mailed to Churches of Christ Disaster Relief Effort, Inc., PO Box 111180, Nashville, TN 37222-1180.

Happy Birthday

10/1 Maddie Canose
10/7 Dave Delimpo
10/7 John Gromley
10/21 Imogene Bencio

Happy Anniversary

10/24 Jason & Jeanette Bracken

PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER

PS:

family and their ministry in North Africa. Pray for peace and protection, for what God wants and for many connections with others God has called there. and intentional engagement into their new communities and for all the e done in order to begin a new life in a foreign place.

FAMILY MATTERS

Indiana

Church of Christ

724.463.7240

October 15, 2017

Your Calling Actually Isn't About You

By Sharon Hodde Miller

I thought I would grow up to become a psychologist. I had always wanted to help people, and counseling seemed like a great option. I left for college with a lot of certainty about my future. I would major in psychology and that was that. So I signed up for Developmental Psychology and began the work of fulfilling my destiny. I was ready to step into my calling.

What I didn't realize until halfway through the semester is that psychology involves more than listening to people and helping them. If you want to major in psychology, you also have to do math. As it turns out, I was not called to psychology.

Outside of class, I was becoming more involved with Fellowship of Christian Athletes. My faith was growing like it never had before, and my passion for God was bursting at the seams. That season of my life was like a spiritual rebirth, and it was then that I discerned a call to ministry.

Although my calling was clear, it took a while to figure out the shape of my call. After college I spent a year working for Proverbs 31 Ministries and learning the ropes of women's ministry. Then I went to seminary. Then I worked as a college minister. Then I went back to seminary. Somewhere in there I began blogging. Over time, I realized writing was my ministry.

In the beginning, I started writing because I felt called. Writing was my sweet spot, the place where my gifts and my passions met, which was satisfaction enough. But over time, something inside me shifted. Instead of simply enjoying my calling, I began to crave affirmation in it.

My calling had become about me. Ministry, a calling that is foundationally about God, had become a servant to my own success and my pride. If I can make ministry about me, then no calling is immune. Even the best, noblest, and humblest callings are vulnerable to self-focus. Whether you're a CEO, a social worker, or a stay-at-home mom, your calling can become about you. And when it does, it will shrivel your soul like a flower scorched by the sun.

About three years ago, I reached a breaking point. I had been writing and teaching for nearly seven years. Both women were silent for a number of seconds, and then one of them answered me plainly: "Your ministry, your writing, and your calling—it can't be about you." She was right. Exactly right.

I wanted to be known and celebrated. Affirmation was the only reward that mattered to me, and without reward, I couldn't be satisfied. I couldn't enjoy my calling. As much as it hurt, my dissatisfaction was a mercy. That's because my pain and discontentment were a taste of the life I thought I wanted. God was letting me experience how miserable it is to make my calling about me, so that I would stop and turn back before I went any further.

Dissatisfaction is a torment, but it's also a teacher. It reveals our false idols, and it forecasts our future. I