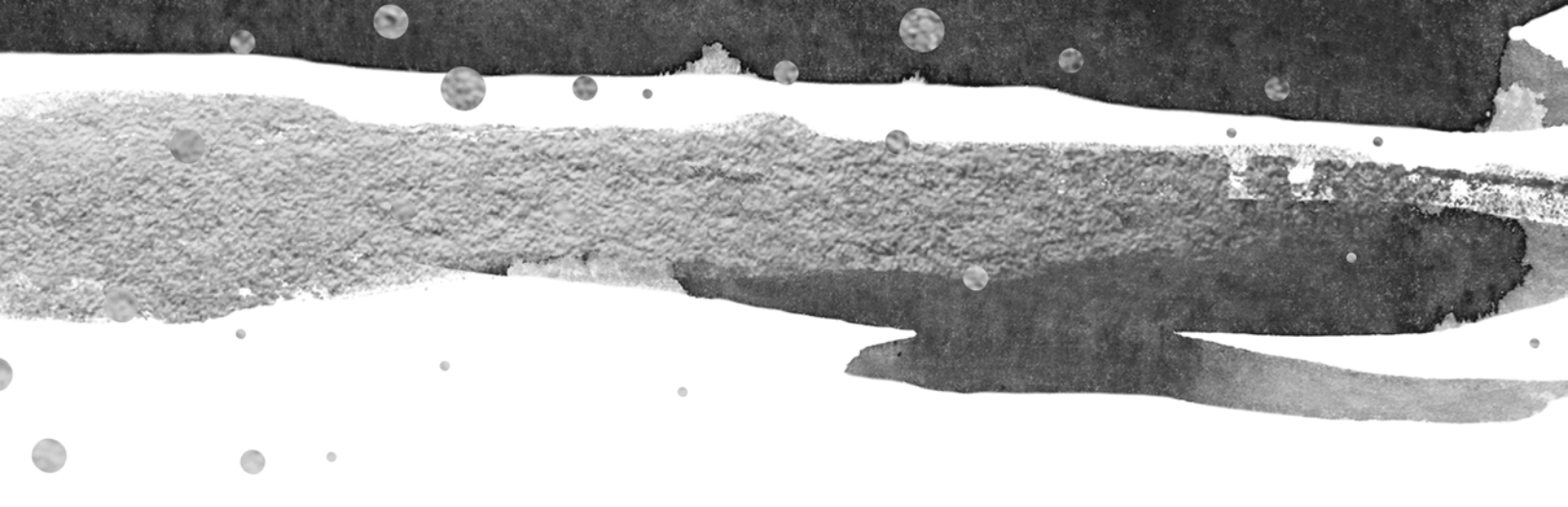




Ladies'
Night Out

JANUARY 14TH, 2019



“On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’”

John 7:37-38



IF I WERE YOUR ENEMY

adapted from Jennie Allen's book "Nothing to Prove"

.....

I would make you believe:

- You need permission to lead.
- You are helpless.
- You are insignificant.
- God wants your decorum and behavior.

These lies have been sufficient to shut down much of the church. But when those old lies are no longer adequate.

I would make you numb and distract you from God's story.

I would use things like:

- Technology
- Social Media
- Netflix
- Travel
- Food & Drink
- Comfort

You would **NOT** be tempted with notably bad things, but distracted with everyday comforts that slowly make you forget God. Until you start to love comfort more than surrender, obedience, and souls.

I would attack your identity and make you believe that you had to prove yourself. You would focus on yourself instead of God.

- Friends become enemies
- Teammates become competition
- You judge people who need God
- You condemn rather than love and invite in.
- You gossip and tear down other works of God.
- You isolate yourself & think you are NOT enough

OR

- You compare yourself & believe that you are better than others

Either way you lose YOUR JOY, because your eyes are fixed on yourself and people instead of on Jesus.

I would intoxicate you with the mission of God rather than God Himself.

- You begin to worship a cause instead of Jesus.
- You fight each other to have more important roles.
- You burn out from striving.
- You think that success is measured in results you can see.
- You would build platforms for applause rather than to display God.

Your time and effort is spent on becoming important rather than on knowing Jesus and loving people.

I would make you suffer.

- Maybe you would think God is evil rather than good.
- Your faith would shrink.
- You would get bitter and weary and tired rather than flourish and grow and become more like Christ.

You would try to control your life rather than step into the plans that He has for you.

THE ENEMY IS TELLING YOU THAT **FREEDOM** IS ONLY FOUND IN FINALLY **PROVING** TO YOURSELF AND TO THE WORLD THAT...

- You are Important
- You are in Control
- You are Liked
- You are Happy

HERE'S THE TRUTH

You don't have to **PROVE** anything because Jesus **PROVED** everything! You are Important, You are Loved, You are **NOT ENOUGH**, but that's OK because **JESUS** is and He is in Control.

Believing this truth is where **FREEDOM** is found!

THE LIE I AM BELIEVING IS:

I WILL CHOOSE TO REPLACE THAT LIE WITH THIS TRUTH:

DIGGING DEEPER THIS MONTH

adapted from Jennie Allen's book "Nothing to Prove"

.....

What is in the backpack that you are carrying? We have to name what we are carrying before we can get free of it.

What is heavy, hard or difficult for you right now? What do you find yourself thinking about most right now? What are you sad, worried or afraid of right now?

MAYBE IT'S:

FEAR - I don't know what I have to offer. I don't know what to do. I feel helpless. I'm too old, too young, or too ill equipped. I'm going to fail or look like a fool. People will be disappointed in me or won't like me. I'm not strong enough or brave enough.

My biggest fear is _____

DIFFICULTIES - My life feels out of control. My child is rebelling. I can't do this. I don't want to be a burden or appear weak. I am divorced. I am sick. People I love are suffering.

My biggest difficulty or most difficult circumstance is _____

PRESSURES - I can't measure up. I feel worthless, weak or unlovable. I feel like it's all up to me, if I don't do it, it won't get done. I don't know how I will get it all done so why try. I'm too busy. I feel like people love me for what I do, not who I am. I don't have enough faith.

My biggest pressure is _____

SHAME - I've messed up. I'm not worthy. What if they discover the truth? I can't believe I let that happen. If they know, they will reject me. My past has disqualified me from leading or moving forward. I need to hide my true self, I'm a fraud.

My biggest thing that haunts me is _____

"God has a sneaky way of not only forgiving our past sin but redeeming the choices we thought had ruined everything." - Jennie Allen

DIVING IN THIS MONTH

.....

Dive into these scriptures and record what you hear God saying to you:

JOHN 10:10 _____

ISAIAH 43:18-19 _____

MATTHEW 17:20 _____

JEREMIAH 2:13 _____

JOHN 7:37-38 _____

ISAIAH 58:11 _____

EXPERIENCES TO DRINK HIM IN MORE

adapted from an excerpt from Jennie Allen's book "Nothing to Prove"

.....

These are designed to take what you are learning and move it into your everyday life. They may push you out of your comfort zone, challenge yourself to do at least one of these over the next month and be ready to share these experiences next month at your table.

24 HOUR ELECTRONICS FAST - (TV, Phone, iPad, Computer etc...)

WHY? - This is an area where the enemy numbs us and addicts us, so the goal here is to open your eyes to the ways the enemy is after you.

HOW? - Seriously hide them and do not touch them for 24 hours, this is nearly impossible, but that is what makes it a challenge and makes it effective.

- If you have kids, plan to do this at a time when they will be with you or staying with a trusted friend or loved one, so you don't have to worry about emergency situations. You can also prepare by telling school, day-care, etc to contact someone else in case of emergency.
- If your job requires use of these things, plan to do this over the weekend. Set up an email responder, so others will know not to expect a response from you.
- Don't announce your "fast" on social media, just keep it between you and your closest circle that needs to know.
- Make a Plan for your time. Schedule something with friends, time to enjoy nature, time with Jesus, take a nap, enjoy quality time with your family.

AFTER THE 24 HOURS, RECORD YOUR OBSERVATIONS BELOW

REFLECTION QUESTIONS FOR THE MONTH

Taken from Jennie Allen's "Proven" Bible Study

.....

1. In what ways have you been trying to prove you are enough?

2. In general, how do you see people living numb or trying to measure up in our culture?

3. What are the results of striving on your own?

4. What is keeping you from enjoying Jesus?

5. In what ways have you been choosing broken cisterns rather than the fulfillment Jesus offers?

6. Do you know anyone that lives fully alive and connected to Jesus? Would you be bold enough to talk with them about how they do that?

7. Do you believe you are a joyful person? If so what brings you joy? If not, what are your barriers to a more joyful life?

8. What is one change you need to make in your life because of what you learned or experience through Ladies' Night Out this month?

9. Who can you share that with to help you stay accountable to that decision?

FREEDOM FROM THE ENEMY'S LIES LOOKS LIKE MOVING:

- From needy to meeting needs of others
- From consumed with self to consumed with love for others
- From performing to actually enjoying our lives
- From striving to truly resting

If you are following along in Jennie Allen's "Nothing to Prove" book - Read Chapters 1-5 (pg 1-101) before our February Gathering.

Join our Facebook Group at facebook.com/groups/graceladiesnightout

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

.....

John 7:37-38
Matthew 11:28-30
John 10:10
Isaiah 43:18-19
Jeremiah 2:13

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

.....

Monday, February 11th // Ladies' Night Out @ 6:00pm
Monday, March 11th // Ladies' Night Out @ 6:00pm
Sunday, April 7th // The Freedom Tour w/ Jennie Allen & Christy Nockels at Grace Community Church
(tickets on sale soon)

WEEKLY SMALL GROUP OPTIONS

.....

Sign Up at the Info Table Tonight or online at graceclarksville.com/ladiesnightout

- Monday Nights - (Non LNO nights) at 6:00pm - led by Brittnye Reigle
- Wednesday Mornings at 10:00am - led by Andrea Palomaki/Ashley Dressler
- Wednesday Mornings at 10:00am - led by Kara Honbarger
- Friday Mornings at 9:30 am - North Clarksville (Exit 1 & 4) - led by Faith Malone
- Friday Mornings at 9:00 am - South Clarksville (Sango) - led by Lauren Kent

Questions: Email ccrosby@graceclarksville.com



GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH
[GRACECLARKSVILLE.COM/LADIESNIGHTOUT](https://graceclarksville.com/ladiesnightout)