



Retaining God's Word by Tricia Bergey

"'Show us how.' It was said so matter-of-factly it took me a second to realize she was praying. More and more, the distinction between prayer and the rest of life seemed to be vanishing for Betsie." This was a quote from Corrie Ten Boom about her sister. I can relate to the description of Betsie. I have found praying in a conversation is often how I want to respond to what someone is sharing with me. I hear the concern in a friend's conversation, I learn that something has been lost, or I hear of an accomplishment of a family member—all examples of moments when I might transition to talking to God during the conversation...not necessarily with a bow of a head or saying "Let's pray..." I think I began doing this when I noticed a difference in how I felt when I responded quickly to God.

There were several significant quotes and responses to life from Corrie's book that I recorded on my paper bookmark while reading her book, "The Hiding Place", because I wanted to remember them. I read the book many years ago and am glad for that paper for quick reference. I rarely quote someone, but I have seen that words from scripture influence my thoughts of the events of the day, or sometimes in my prayers for myself and others. In the past year or two, I have added something new at the conclusion of my time reading the Bible. In my desire to retain what I read, I test myself. I prefer to read a Psalm, some Old Testament, and some New Testament each day. Then, I kneel and talk to the Lord, stating the teaching or detail that stood out to me from each book. If I can't remember, then I open the Bible and find a verse. I believe this is increasing my retention of reading scripture so that it does transform my day and my life. I love the discipline of Bible memory, and this is another way for me to feast on God's word.

Last week, during Shine, I was working with a student whose assignment was very similar to this. After reading a paragraph on a specific topic, there were several problems needing to be matched with their solutions. I could see how this helped her and me to try to pay attention to what we were reading together or re-read it to find an answer. This exercise can help with both comprehension and retention of information.

I want to have quotes and teaching from scripture ready to recall, in addition to quotes from the testimonies of brothers and sisters who have been faithful and endured in their walk with Christ.

"This is what the Lord says: 'Let him who boasts boast about this: that he understands and knows Me, that I am the Lord, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight.'" Jeremiah 9:24

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Making Connections

"Code 9! Room 452, bed 1. Code 9!" The overhead speaker blasts through the everyday noise of the ICU I work in as a nurse at Doylestown Hospital. The announcement sends my feet racing through the halls and stairwells of the hospital to the bedside of the patient in trouble. Immediately, my years of experience and training kick into gear and I work alongside other doctors and nurses to restore life to the patient lying lifeless in bed. My brain filters out the chaos and noise around me as all inside of me becomes calm and I am able to assess the situation and how best to help using the skills and knowledge I have. As crazy and backwards as it may sound, this is one of my "sweet spots". A place where I feel like who God created me to be and how He knit me together, meets a need the world has. If you had told me as a little girl that this is what I would be doing as an adult, I never would have believed it.

Hi. My name is **Kim Frederick** and I've been attending Franconia for the last 16 years. Born to a mother who was a German immigrant and a father who was born and raised locally, my childhood was both typical and quite unusual. A rather shy and introverted child, there were a lot of challenges I experienced while growing up. Many factors played into the difficulties I faced, although to the outside world these would not have been so evident. I attended Penn View, Christopher Dock and Eastern Mennonite University. I met my husband, Tim, while in high school and while still in college, we were married.

I had a scholarship from a hospital in Virginia that provided my first nursing job out of college. I wanted to work in labor and delivery since my goal at that point in my life was to become a nurse midwife. However God, in his great wisdom and understanding, had the hospital place me on a telemetry/step-down unit where I worked for a little over a year before moving into the ICU. It's rather ironic to me now that all those years of challenge and stress I faced as a child conditioned me to thrive in an environment of high stress. The environment in the ICU also opened my eyes to the great deal of pain those around us experience. It is so easy to become absorbed by our own lives that we fail to see those struggling. Not only were my patients and families experiencing tough circumstances, but as I got to know my co-workers, I found that many of them had painful stories as well. Childhoods that were as difficult or much more so than my own had been. Life experiences that wounded them and choices they were making from those wounds that were perpetuating the pain.

I have found that God uses everything, even our difficult and painful circumstances to fashion us into who He would have us be. For me, I found that my difficult and stressful childhood helped to shape me into someone that thrives in challenging, high-pressure circumstances. Because of my own wounds growing up, I have a sensitivity towards those that are hurting around me and a desire for them to know how much God loves them. This is one of my favorite verses of scripture "*For we are His workmanship (some translations use the term "Masterpiece"), created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do.*" Ephesians 2:10. I firmly believe that God uses



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Making Connections – Kim Frederick

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who we are; who He created us to be; to do His good and loving works here on earth. For each of us, that looks a little different. I encourage you to lean into all of who God created you to be, the circumstances He has placed you in and allow Him to use **who** you are to do His good works. For me, that looks like working as an ICU nurse as well as being a mom to three young adult children and wife to Tim. It also means enjoying flower gardening, architecture and design, traveling and experiencing new places. I am learning to embrace the unique way in which God put me together and allowing Him to use me in the ways He designed me to do the creative good works He has planned in advance for me to do.



Get Involved!

Ladies' Outing to Chanticleer Garden

Saturday, May 20th

We will meet at church at **9:00 am**
and return by **3:00 pm**

(We will be taking three 15-passenger vans and
additional personal vehicles, if necessary.)

Bring your own picnic lunch & water bottle.
Coolers and extra water will be provided.

\$12 admission
(Children 12 & under are free)

*Rain date June 3rd

SIGN UP by May 7th at the Women's Ministry
table in the foyer, or email
franconiawomen@gmail.com



Come join us for a Ladies' **Walk in the Park**

Tuesday, May 2nd
7:00 pm

At Franconia Park
(Allentown Rd. entrance)



All are welcome! This is an informal
gathering for fellowship, exercise,
and enjoying God's creation. Walk
and talk as long as you like!

Next walk: June 6th



Thanks to everyone who came to see
"Jesus Revolution" with us last month.
We pray that it was a blessing to you!



May 2023

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1	2 Walk in the Park 7pm	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 Sewing Circle 8am-4pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 7pm	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 Chosen 300	17	18	19	20 Chanticleer Outing 9am-3pm
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 Memorial Day	30	31			

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