



walking with purpose

THE MODERN WOMAN'S GUIDE TO THE BIBLE

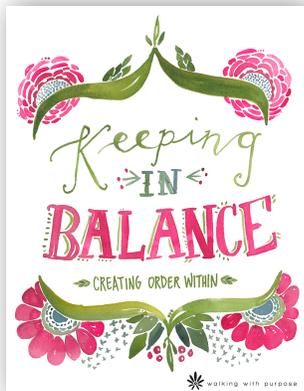
Welcome to WWP at St. Stephen, Martyr!

We are so excited to share this ministry with you. WWP is a national women's Catholic scripture study with the goal of bringing you into a deeper personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Our ministry spans all seasons of life. We grow together by drawing upon the wisdom of those who are more experienced and absorbing the enthusiasm of those who are just beginning their journey.

Our program consists of individual daily study and weekly small group discussions, both of which link your everyday challenges with the solutions given through the teachings of Christ and the Roman Catholic Church.

In person kick off is Wednesday, September 16 from 7:00-8:30pm. (50 person limit)
Zoom kickoff is Wednesday, September 23 from 8:00-9:15pm. Our first meeting is Wednesday, September 30. Please see calendar below for all the dates and times.

2020-21 WWP Bible Studies



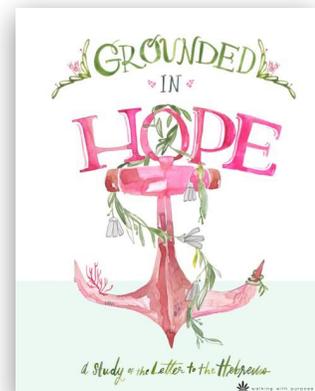
Keeping in Balance
Creating Order Within
INTERMEDIATE STUDY

[Courses](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Registration](#)

[About WWP](#)



Grounded in Hope
The Book of Hebrews
ADVANCED STUDY

"I drew closer to God, met wonderful women, and opened the door of my heart a little wider for the Lord to enter."



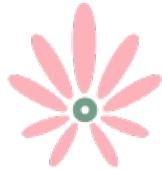
[Return to SSM Website](#)



You are

welcome

just as you are.



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**“My life is so much easier now that I have reawakened my faith.
I can trust God has a plan, and His will be best.”**



www.walkingwithpurpose.com



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Frequently Asked Questions

Who founded Walking With Purpose?

Lisa Brenninkmeyer, a convert to Catholicism and mother of seven, developed the Bible study program called Walking With Purpose (WWP) in 2002. It has grown from 12 women in a church basement to 48,000 nationwide. WWP is part of the spiritual movement in the Church that is reaching more and more women and their families.

What is the attraction to this ministry?

WWP is a fresh, relevant, and focused study of Scriptures that aims to open the heart where real change happens, and not just intellectual development. With an open heart, we can receive God's graces that He wants to bestow on us. When hearts change, so do behaviors and attitudes toward everyone and everything that is part of our life.

Why should I try it?

As women, we often put our needs last. This is something for YOU...a place to refuel and refresh your heart and soul, meet wonderful ladies of all ages, learn more about your Catholic faith, and be reminded of God's love for you.

How many women participate at SSM?

When WWP was introduced to St. Stephen, Martyr in 2016, 85 ladies signed up. Last year, 170 women came weekly from parishes all over Hampton Roads. The women were of all ages and stages in life. Most had no Bible experience. Some were not regular churchgoers. That shows the true desire and hunger for a deeper spirituality, and for real connections with other women in the community. What they share is a curiosity and desire to examine their faith and their relationship with God, hoping to make it more meaningful, and a conscious part of their everyday activity.

Is there actual walking involved?

Nope. :-)

What's the vibe?

Joy, energy, and enthusiasm spill out of the classrooms each week. The women are truly glad to see one another and grateful to have a setting to talk about God, their faith, or challenges with it, and share insights from the lessons with each other. They form a real sense of community. The small group experience is valued.

How has WWP positively impacted the lives of ladies at SSM?

95% say their prayer life has improved.

98% say their relationship with Christ is stronger.

91% say they are more involved in their parish.

97% feel stronger in their Catholic faith.

Which course is right for me?

If you're new to Walking With Purpose, sign up for [Keeping in Balance](#).

When and where do we meet?

We meet September through April at church, virtually, and in homes. Please refer to the Calendar tab for details.

Have the WWP Bible studies received the Imprimatur?

Yes, all WWP Bible Studies have received the Imprimatur from the Archdiocese of Baltimore.

What can I expect at the weekly sessions?

First of all, come as you are...work clothes, work out clothes...whatever. You'll be assigned a classroom to go to for fellowship, coffee, and light snacks; open in prayer; move to small groups for discussion; then close with personal prayer requests. Make sure you bring your Bible each week.

Do I have to be Catholic to join?

WWP is a Catholic Bible study, but we welcome any women interested in studying God's Word, irrespective of faith background, age, or marital status.

How much time will I spend completing the daily lessons?

About 15 minutes four days a week.

What if I can't attend every week?

We know you're busy and 22 weeks sounds intimidating...but don't worry. Come the weeks you can and don't stress about the weeks you can't. You still learn a lot if you do the lesson on your own.

Can I switch between morning and evening sessions or church and Zoom?

If you have a conflict and want to attend another session, either at SSM or on Zoom, we do our best to accommodate you. Due to the pandemic, contact Ann first so she can manage group size.

What if I'm running late or didn't do my lesson?

Out of respect of everyone's schedule, we start on time and end on time. If you are running late, come anyway. We're busy women and understand that life and schedules present challenges. Although it's ideal to come prepared with your lesson completed, we realize that some weeks it just doesn't happen. Again, come anyway.

Can I be in a group with my friends?

Group dynamics are so important, so we do our best to get you with your requested leader or friend. However, we're not a club. We're a ministry missioned to touch the lives of as many women as possible to experience the love of Christ through Scripture. For that reason, we mix seasoned participants with new participants.

Does anyone see what I write in my study guide?

What you write is for your eyes only. You only share what you want.

Can I try out a class before I join?

Absolutely. Stop by anytime and try it out. You'll soon discover that WWP is a place to find peace, joy, and balance.

Is babysitting included?

Normally it is, but due the pandemic, we are unable to offer childcare this year. We are, however, offering virtual groups early and late in the day, as well as Home Groups. Perhaps you can connect with a couple of friends and form your own group.

What if there is inclement weather?

If Chesapeake schools are closed, WWP does not meet and the session will be rescheduled.

What is the Kickoff Event?

It's fun! It's the only time both morning and evening groups are all together. You'll enjoy wine, punch, and snacks as we get to know each other, introduce the leadership team, tell newcomers about what to expect, and inform past participants about changes for the upcoming year. This year, we're also offering a Zoom Kickoff.

What is a Connect Coffee?

A Connect Coffee is our monthly meeting when we watch a 30 minute video by Lisa Brenninkmeyer followed by a shortened small group discussion. Since there is no "homework", these weeks are a perfect time to bring a friend or try out a class.

Can I join anytime?

We encourage enrollment before the beginning of each Bible study season; However, we offer "rolling admission." Visit and join our program anytime. There's always room for one more!

How much is the course fee?

The course fee is \$40.

How much is the study guide?

Order your study guide prior to the first session at WWPStore.com. Guides range from \$20 to \$40 plus shipping.

How can I learn more?

Go to www.walkingwithpurpose.com to learn about other Bible studies for adult women, young adults, and middle school girls.

Join us to experience a room filled with positive, welcoming energy and a lot of smiles. We always have room for one more!

Take a minute to hear what past participants say...



"I feel closer to Christ now than any other time in my life."

"It has challenged me to put God in the center of my life."

"I love hearing other women's stories of faith, worry, and their love for our Savior."

"This was my first Bible study. It enriched and motivated me."

"It helped me remember that ultimately, my goal is to reach heaven, which is a journey that presents us every day with a fresh opportunity to grow closer to God."

"I didn't even realize I had a need until this appeared, and it has fulfilled me in a way that I have never felt before."

"It's an amazing opportunity for all women, regardless of age, educational level, or milepost in their faith journey, to grow in their understanding of the Scriptures and their relationship with Jesus."

"WWP helped me grow in my faith, reignite a love for the Church, initiate a transformation in my heart, and become part of the Church community."

"Being new to the area, I felt alone during my husband's deployment. WWP really helped me meet new friends and lean on the Lord."

"It has truly changed my life. I am calmer, grateful, and more at peace than I've ever been."

"WWP has given me strength, encouragement, and confidence in both my spiritual and personal life. It has helped me to reach out to other women in my parish and make friendships that I would not have done before WWP."

"I loved being around women who are flawed, funny, and faithful."

"I am amazed at how weekly topics do relate to my life. I am more conscious of my choices and how I interact with my family and others."

"I was brought up and to go to church. Later in life, I knew I needed to go. Now, with all I have been learning, I want to go."

"The beauty of this program is that we see ourselves changing and each day He gives us opportunities to be closer to Him."





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Small Group Honor Code

At WWP, we are all about small group communities characterized by mutual encouragement and support instead of competition and comparison. We commit to living out the following values:

Confidentiality

We agree that whatever is shared here stays here. This includes what is shared through phone calls, emails, etc. We want this group to be a safe place to grow.

Authenticity

We will seek to be open and honest with each other. Our small group is a place to take off our masks, be ourselves, and be accepted for who we are.

Respect

We agree to communicate in ways that are respectful, and to give advice only when it is requested. We are all at various points on our spiritual journeys. We commit to giving each other grace and to avoid throwing stones of judgment at one another.

Positivity

Negativity weighs down the heart, so we strive to communicate in a way that is filled with hope and encouragement.

A Spirit of Welcome

We agree to keep an empty chair for others and seek to reach out to other women who need this place of caring and growth.

