

Today's Featured Ministry Is:

“Our first big obstacle was managing the technology to record... and create content for the Children's Program... An additional obstacle was engaging our members and children through zoom. “



“What is massive to us is manageable for God.”

Last year, Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) 2020-2021 covered *Beginnings: the Study of Genesis*. Our theme brought us back to the start of everything - we witnessed the wonder of God creating the universe, the tragedy of humanity's fall and God's gracious redemption. This put our individual suffering in perspective as we studied through a global pandemic. We met through zoom and missed the fellowship of meeting in person. But, God was faithful! Our groups were still able to create strong personal bonds united by their hope in Jesus and a commitment to pray for the people in their groups.



We started with 6 groups of 17 women and an online Children's Pre-school Program (CP) with two classes for 2-5 year olds and Infants & Toddlers. Our first big obstacle was managing the technology to record and post weekly lectures and create content for the Children's Program every week. An additional obstacle was engaging our members and children through zoom.

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The Children's Leaders were not able to see the kids as they recorded their lessons, so it felt like teaching into an empty void.

This new online model opened up a new possibility for us. BSF assigned a new online teaching leader to us and we shared our leader with a group in New Jersey. This grew our leaders group and we were able to offer our children's program to the people in NJ.

Despite the challenges, we had over 90 women registered and stable weekly attendance.

BSF starts the 2021-2022 year with a new study of the Book of *Matthew* on Wednesday, 9/15.

The theme is: The Unexpected King. The Long-awaited Messiah first promised in Genesis surprised everyone. He was not the kind of savior people were looking for then...or now. Gentle and compassionate to the marginalized yet bold in confronting religious institutions, Jesus came to make rebels His children/ Forging the only path to forgiveness and salvation. Jesus deserved a crown of glory but willingly wore a crown of thorns. His death looked like defeat but brought eternal glory.

Embracing the words of Jesus will change your life. We will



Wednesdays

9:30am

Focus:
Book of *Matthew*

In addition, the Children's Program is opening a School Group for kids in grades K-2. Their lessons will also be in person and will involve a more in-depth study of Matthew. Both our Children's Programs and the Adult Women's program will have lessons that cover the same verses, so the adults and children can learn and share together.

We will be starting our new study with 133 women and 8 groups: three in-person at the church and 5 virtual. The in-person groups will be capped at 13 women. The virtual group has more people.

Please **PRAY**:

- For the continued safety of all people online and in person as we study during another year of this global pandemic.
- That all who want to join a BSF group would be able to participate.
- That BSF leaders and class members would boldly seek to magnify God and mature His people as they invite a diverse range of individuals – different ethnicities, different ages, different church backgrounds – to participate in BSF .

We are so grateful to God for continuing to provide so many people who are hungry to study the Bible. We continually pray for NHPBC and for all its members. May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all, dear NHPBC family!