

# JULY 2022

## BRIARWOOD *Women's Ministry*

Jen Wilkin writes in her book, In His Image, "God's goodness is a light that radiates through all his other attributes. It is the reason his omnipotence (possession of all power), omniscience (possession of all knowledge), and sovereignty (possession of all control) are a comfort instead of a terror. It is the reason we can dare to believe that he is able to work all things together for good as he has said (Romans 8:28). Right now, there is much that we witness or endure that is clearly not good. But under the sovereign governance of an eternally good God, we can trust that all that is not now good will ultimately be used for our good. Like Joseph we will one day, in this life or the next look over our hard pasts and acknowledge with him that what our enemy meant for evil God has used for good." God's goodness is not just something for the future, "we experience God's goodness in a thousand everyday graces."

Over the month of June we have had the opportunity to experience the goodness of God in our Tuesday bible studies, the Gospel Coalition Women's Conference, the gathering of Working Women on the 29<sup>th</sup>, the Tuesday morning potluck brunch, the General Assembly, the Chaplain's Conference, the four June Sundays in our communities and worship, and in everyday sweet moments with family and friends. Let us step back and be a people who express our thankfulness to our good God and his "thousand everyday graces!"



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### Special points of interest

- Working Women's Dinner  
July 27th
- Summer Bible Study  
July 12th, 19th, 26th
- Mad Hatter Tea Party  
August 27th

## Briarwood Women take on Indianapolis The Gospel Coalition Women's Conference



This Summer, a group of Briarwood women had the opportunity to venture to Indianapolis for the 2022 Gospel Coalition Women's Conference with over 8,000 other women from all around the country. The conference featured well-known keynote speakers, including John Piper, Jen Wilkin, Jackie Hill Perry, and Nancy Guthrie. Breakout sessions were offered each day featuring an array of theological and practical topics from teaching the Bible to navigating the social media world to walking through various stages and seasons of life.





# Briarwood Women take on Indianapolis

## The Gospel Coalition Women's Conference

The theme of the conference was "Remember Your Joy." Each speaker elaborated on the true, deep, unending joy we have in salvation through Jesus Christ and reflected on remembering this joy in the Old Testament narratives.



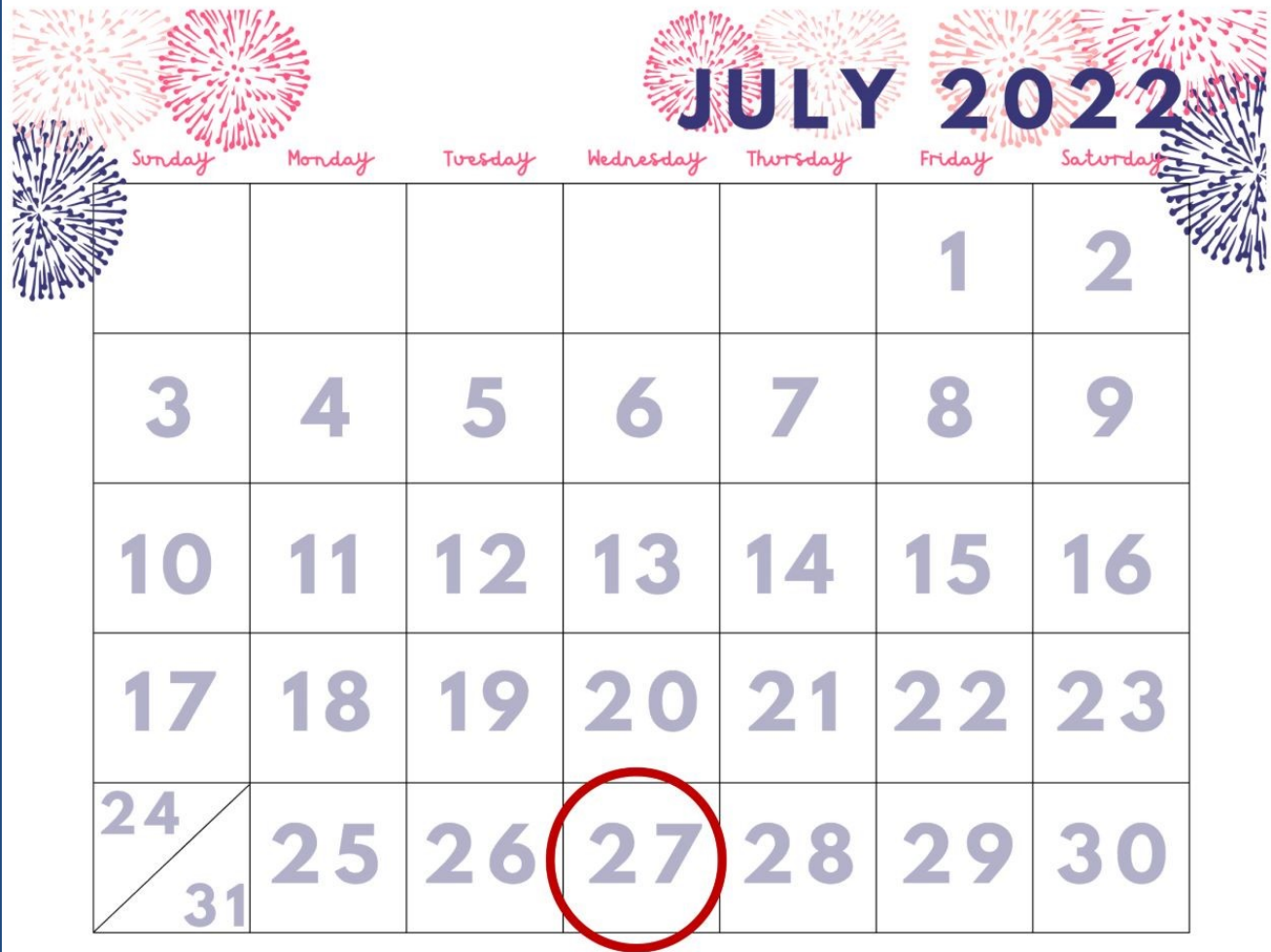
Behold, God is my salvation;  
I will trust, and will not be afraid;  
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song,  
and he has become my salvation."

With joy you will draw water from the wells  
of salvation.

Isaiah 12:2-3



# Mark your calendar for our next Working Women's Fellowship Dinner



We would like to invite you to join us for an evening of food, fellowship, engagement and encouragement from those with shared experiences.

**Fellowship Hall**  
**6:00 pm—7:30 pm**  
**Dinner is \$5.00 at the door**

Please let us know you are coming by registering at [briarwood.org/women](http://briarwood.org/women)



You're Invited

TO A



# MAD HATTER TEA PARTY

Saturday  
August 27<sup>th</sup>

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

9:30 A.M. –  
12:00 P.M.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Fellowship Hall

Visit [briarwood.org/women](http://briarwood.org/women) for more  
information and for how you can help.



To sign up to bring  
one of the treats to  
the tea, please visit  
this [SignUp Genius](#).

You can email Amanda  
Peterson for further info at  
[apeterson@briarwood.org](mailto:apeterson@briarwood.org)

# Women's Summer Bible Study

9:30-11:30 AM  
in the Chapel

Nursery available.  
Reservation required.

Tuesday, July 12  
Annette Blake  
The Parable of the Wise  
and Foolish Builders

Tuesday, July 19  
Rebekah Vermeer  
The Parable of the Ten Virgins

Tuesday, July 26  
Sue Lewis  
The Parable of the Weeds



*To end our summer study,  
we will have a Potluck  
Brunch in the Fellowship  
Hall on Tuesday, July 26*





## Briarwood Women's Care Team

The Briarwood Women's Care Team (WCT) is up and running. If you have not heard about this newer ministry, the WCT is a team of women focused on serving women in crisis who are also sensitive to the needs of those being helped. The Women's Care Team is made up of 9 Briarwood women who have gone through various trainings in how to serve our women in crisis. While each team member fully understands her own limitations, each is confident that the Lord will work in the midst of crisis and each desires to be used to minister to Briarwood women.

The focus of the ministry of the Women's Care Team is as follows:

**The Women's Care Team's primary focus is to serve as advocates for women experiencing significant needs and/or in crisis, and to come alongside the staff and leadership as they minister to women in the congregation in difficult circumstances.**

We are thankful to the Lord for this opportunity to expand how we serve the women of Briarwood.

To find out more information, or to request help, visit:

[briarwood.org/women-of-the-covenant/womens-care-team/](http://briarwood.org/women-of-the-covenant/womens-care-team/)

# Thoughts on the Goodness of God

By Jerri Lynn Turner

*"Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever."*  
*Psalm 23:6 (KJV)*

We are created in God's image to glorify Him and enjoy Him forever! He has good plans for us. God has purposefully placed people, places, and events in our lives to bring glory to Him and to grow us in our likeness of Him. (Genesis 50:20 ESV) This includes the hard people, places and events.

I watched on television as the Twin Towers got hit on September 11, 2001 and thousands were killed. It was an act of the goodness of God. A member of Redeemer Presbyterian Church decided to not go in to work at his office in the Twin Towers on the exact same day. It was an act of the goodness of God.

Romans 8:28 reminds us of God's goodness because, *"All things work together for good for those who love God and are called according to His purpose."*

As difficult as this sounds, even in tragedy God is good and His plans are good. So, how can I grow to rightly see the goodness of God.

Time in God's Word is critical if we are to see the goodness of God. *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."* (ESV John 1:1) We can "pour out our praise" and "cast all our cares" (I Peter 5:7) to God, as "we confess our sins." (I John 1:9) In Exodus 33, Moses asks God to let him see His glory, but God promises Moses His goodness. God tells Moses, "I will make My goodness pass before you." Think of all the miracles, wonders, signs, and blessings Moses and the Israelites would have missed if God had only showed Moses His glory! Nothing is impossible with God!

Notice the daily providence and provision as examples of our God's goodness. "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." (Jeremiah 29:11 ESV) We see God's providence and provision as He sustains us each day. (I Peter 5:7, Psalm 55:22 ESV) While God is faithfully meeting our physical needs today, we are worrying about tomorrow! (Matthew 6:34 ESV) Life is hard, but we can trust God's goodness to provide for us even when His provision does not parallel our plans.

Recognize God's goodness is in every breath we take. "Every breath in our lungs" is a good gift and perfect gift from above (from James 1:17 ESV.) How often do we take the simple joy of breathing for granted? Each day, each breath, is evidence of the goodness of God.

Forgiveness reveals God's goodness. "If we confess our sins, [God] is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9 ESV) In Christ, we are able to come to the God of goodness and confess our sins. God did not have to forgive the human race whom He created in His image, for breaking His laws, but in His goodness we are able to embrace the gift of forgiveness He has given us.

Ponder the Gospel. The greatest act of God's goodness was sending His only Son, Jesus Christ, the Old Testament's promised Messiah. Jesus was fully God and fully man. He came to Earth and died sacrificially on a cross by crucifixion. He died a criminal's death, though innocent. Jesus was intentional for us, carrying out the will of the Father, that only Jesus was capable of fulfilling. "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him" John 3:16-17 ESV

The Greek word for goodness means "an uprightness of heart and life." God is good and His mercies know no end. God's goodness is so good that Jesus willingly died in our place on the cross. Reflect on the goodness of God.





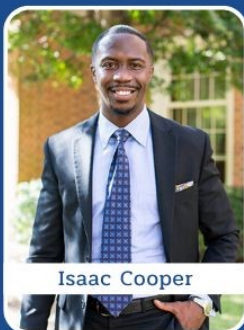
# SUMMER SERIES

*Integrity: Loving the Truth with All You Are*



Jenny Waltman

Grace Klein Construction &  
Grace Klein Community



Isaac Cooper

IMC Financial  
Consulting



Dr. Matt Phillips

Life On Wheels

**THURSDAY | JULY 28 | 6:30AM**

Regions Room, Brock School of Business, 4th floor of Cooney Hall at Samford University

**REGISTER ONLINE AT YBL.ORG**

## Baron's Family Night

**Wednesday, July 13th at 7:00PM**

Join the Briarwood Family for a fun night out at Regions Field.

[CLICK HERE](#)

For more information and to purchase tickets for the game.



## 5 Year Bible Reading Plan

You can download the 5-year plan by visiting:

<https://briarwood.org/women-of-the-covenant/five-year-bible-reading-plan/>

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<b>Psalms (part 1)</b> JULY S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
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The Ligonier Conference is coming to Briarwood!

For additional information and to register [click here.](#)



## Fools for Christ

August 12–13, 2022

Reeder | Parsons | Thomas

Ligonier Regional Conference | Birmingham AL