

The Berean BANNER

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Scars

As I write this, I am recovering from a major abdominal surgery to repair my muscles from the damage done after having 3 big babies. I am one month post-op and still very sore from two incisions across my abdomen (one is 18 inches hip to hip and the other is 12 inches right up the middle.) The surgeon zipped me up and sutured my muscles back together from a major muscle separation and hernia in my core. Needless to say, the scars are expansive and I'm sure they will not easily disappear.

God has used this time of recovery to draw me to himself. I was literally laid out for the first couple of weeks, barely able to move. Each day has felt SO long, but I chose to use that time to press in - through prayer, reading, and studying God's Word.

days. I study their faces, movements, and little voices to somehow lock that away in my memory.

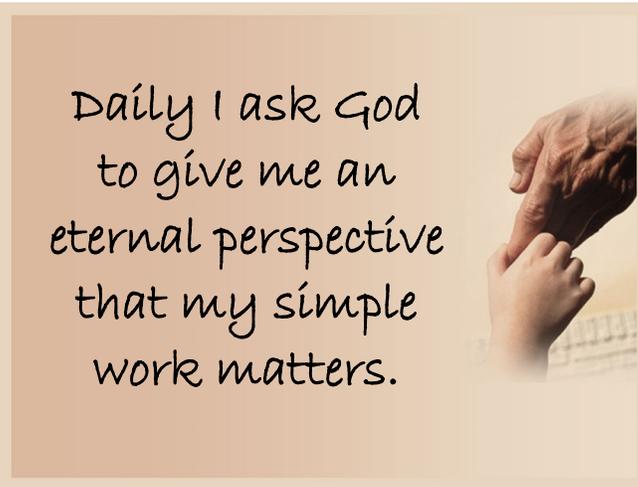
I'm thankful for these scars and the journey the Lord has taken me on these past 8 years of motherhood. Motherhood is the most sanctifying work Jesus has ever done in my life. He has used these 3 tiny humans to shape me, build my character, and grow me into maturity in Christ. James 1 could be an anthem of motherhood:

"Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you." (James 1:2-4)

I cry out for wisdom daily because in and of myself I have nothing to offer my family. I want to be mature and complete, not lacking anything. Motherhood is a marathon, not a sprint. It develops perseverance and endurance and weeds out the selfishness naturally rooted in my heart. God's Spirit births in us a sweet holiness that comes from giving yourself away and learning to love through sacrifice.

I offer my mothering to God as a living sacrifice, *"holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship"* (Romans 12:1). Motherhood is about a man. It's about Jesus. It's about Christ being birthed and formed in my children that I disciple every day, in a thousand ordinary ways. God is calling me to be faithful with the gifts he has placed in my hands. They are eternal souls and worth my investment. Daily I ask God to give me an eternal perspective that my simple work matters. And it does.

Chelsea Hall



Daily I ask God to give me an eternal perspective that my simple work matters.

I do not resent these scars because they tell a beautiful story of LIFE. I was able to have 3 children (Silas, 8, Selah, 5, Esther, 9 months). I had one miscarriage which made me appreciate more the miracle of being able to get pregnant and stay pregnant.

It was difficult for me to carry them and each one was very hard on my body.

These scars are a daily reminder of my role as mother, something I longed to be since I was a child. I've always wanted to be a mama since I was young playing with my dolls. I get to be the one to watch them grow up each day, barely noticing the slow progress of age. When I look back at pictures I get tears in my eyes of the magic of these ordinary

Sunday Morning Schedule

9:00 am Informal Worship Service in HeBrews

9:30 am Adult Electives:

- ◆ Prayer Time in Room 3
- ◆ Kingdom Disciples Beginning May 5 In the library

In *Kingdom Disciples*, Tony Evans calls believers and churches back to our primary calling of being and making disciples. Outlining a simple, actionable definition of that responsibility, he explains the necessary priorities, teaches us how to disciple others, shows what this role looks like lived in community, and discusses the impact that's possible when our world sees heaven at work on earth. An empowering and energizing resource for everyone! The study will be facilitated by Alex Rueda. Books are \$15.

10:15 am Fellowship Time

10:45 am Main Worship Service

For Children during the Main Worship Service:

Nursery for infants and toddlers 0-3 – located in the CE Building

Kingdom Kids for ages 4-1st grade dismissed before the sermon with teachers to room 2.

Club 3¹⁶ for grades 2-5 dismissed before the sermon with teachers to room 5.

Draw people to Jesus and grow together as His followers!

HALLELUJAH!

THINE THE GLORY

The Persecuted Church Information & Prayer

May 5, 6:00-8:00 pm, In HeBrews

Please come and hear the stories of our persecuted brothers and sisters. Listen to their prayer requests and join in prayer for them. The topic for this session is China. Teens and adults are invited to attend. If you have any questions contact Jennie Onarheim.

Annual Missions Yard Sale May 11, 8:00 am-2:00 pm

Opportunity Knocks to clean out your storage places! We welcome donations of good used items. Please bring your boxes of clean, sale-worthy items to Sunday school room 4 so we can begin pricing. *No adult clothing, televisions, electronics, phones, computers or printers, please.* If you can help sort, organize or price items ahead of time, clean up after, or would like to work at the yard sale, please sign up on the list on the foyer table! Call the office, 436-2529, for more information! All proceeds go toward short-term missions!

Next Men's Breakfast...

8:00 am, Saturday, May 18

in the Fellowship Hall

The food is always hearty and tasty, the fellowship is great! Bring your dad, son, brother, neighbor, or friend.



Coming this summer...



Vacation Bible School
June 17 - 21, 2019
9:00 am - 12:00 noon

Open to children age 3 (by Jan. 1, 2019) through kids going into the 6th grade.

There will be activities for kids going into 7th and 8th grade too.

Join *The Incredible Race* and experience God's love for every tribe, language, and nation!

Cinco de Mayo Dinner Fundraiser for the Mexico Mission Team

May 3 at 6:00 pm in the fellowship hall

Taco Bar, Beans & Rice Dinner & Dessert Auction!

Dinner: \$5.00/Adult, \$3.00/Child 12 years old and under
\$20.00/Family maximum

Come bid generously on delicious desserts!

Desserts Needed for the Cinco de Mayo Dinner! **Bakers** please bring your most scrumptious desserts, labeled and ready to be auctioned to the church during office hours (9:00am-3:00pm Tuesday-Friday) or to the dinner, **Friday, May 3**. Sign-up in the foyer. Thank you so much!

Double Nickels 55+

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June 1, 11:00 am

At Richard & Karen Handley's home



Potlunch & Dessert Auction

Sunday, May 26 - Monthly potlunches are a great opportunity to get to know our church family and to invite visitors. Please mark your calendar for May 26 and bring lots of food to share.

Desserts will be auctioned off by the 55+ Double Nickel group to raise funds for their Vintage Vehicle show outreach, holiday food baskets and new music books for Grenada Gardens.

Desserts are needed for the auction! Please bring your desserts, labeled and ready to be auctioned to the potlunch on May 26. Sign-up in the foyer. **OR Come prepared to bid on desserts.** Thank you so much!

Church Finances as of 3/19/2019

General Offerings: \$80,445

General Budget: \$86,196

General Expenses: \$83,087

Average Attendance YTD: 224

Our 2019 Budget Goal is \$327,921

Praise the Lord, He is faithful!

Option for giving..

You are welcome to give online for your general tithes and offerings! Go to our church website, www.grenadaberean.org and look for the "Donate" button on the home page. You can give through your credit card or Paypal. You will get a tax receipt as normal.

REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVED



ALL GAVE SOME, SOME GAVE ALL

MISSIONS



SATURDAY, MAY 11
8:00 AM—2:00 PM

Coming Up...

June 1 Double Nickels 55+ Luau
June 17-21 Vacation Bible School
June 30 Potlunch
June 30 Roots Class
July 9-12 Junior Bible Camp @
Juanita Lake
July 28-Aug 5 Mexico Mission Trip
Aug 4 All Church Picnic & Baptism
Aug 30-Sept 2 Labor Day Campout
@ Kidder Creek

Listen on the Web!

Check out our Worship Service at
www.grenadaberean.org