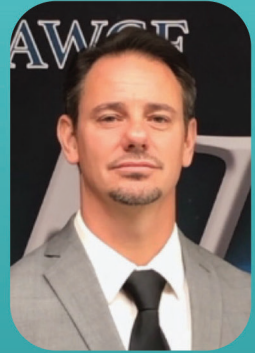


# Prayer BAND NEEDED

**Pastor Steve Skiba of Faith Covenant Bible Church, of Osseo, Michigan will be preaching in Pakistan. He would like our prayer support for the crusades in Pakistan—February 13-22. If you are interested in participating in this prayer effort, please see Pastor Bob.**



## 2023 TOP 10 WORST COUNTRIES FOR CHRISTIAN PERSECUTION

<b>NIGERIA</b>	<b>CHINA</b>	<b>INDONESIA</b>
<b>NORTH KOREA</b>	<b>PAKISTAN</b>	<b>AZERBAIJAN</b>
<b>INDIA</b>	<b>EIRTREA</b>	
<b>IRAN</b>	<b>ALGERIA</b>	

*JCC Ladies*

# Bible Journaling

You are invited to a once-a-month Bible Journal Class at Pastor Phylis' house on the **THIRD THURSDAY** each month, February-May. Each session would consist of a study topic, discussion, prayer, and time for creative journaling... ultimately you choose your journal as you please—then continue to add to your journal through the week. If interested, sign the sheet as classes are forming.



# TRUST *The Process*

Jan 07 » The Power of Yet: Joseph  
Jan 14 » Get Past Your Fears: Gideon  
Jan 21 » For Such a Time as This: Esther  
Jan 28 » The Shepherd of Israel: David

## Prayer REQUESTS

### ▶ SALVATION

- Walter Miner III     Gearen Family     Tom M.     Stein Family
- Ryan K.             Tyler M.             Mandy W.     Dave. O

### ▶ HEALTH ISSUES

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Art B. » Health Issues</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Armando » Back Issues</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Mandy W. » Cancer</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Merle » Health Issues</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Carlos V. » Health Issues</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Angie &amp; Family » Life Issues</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Bob A. Healing/Kidney</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Camilia S. » Cancer/Leg</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Robert G. » Health Issues</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Kevin K. » Health Issues</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Angela A. » Health Issues</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Michelle H. » Leukemia</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Lucille S. » Health Issues</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Laura S. » Health Issues</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Augustin A. » Sobriety</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Hector S. » Job Issues</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Walter Miner III. » Health Issues</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ken R. » Surgery</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Peggy K. » Knee Procedure</li> </ul> |
|--|---|



## METRICS THAT MATTER (01/21/24)

ATTENDANCE ▶ 30    GIVING ▶ \$1,710    GUESTS ▶ 0  
 VOLUNTEERS ▶ 15    DECISIONS FOR CHRIST ▶ 0

*The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul, since I have rejected him from being king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.”* **1 Samuel 16:1-2**

## Samuel CHECKS OUT JESSE’S SONS

*When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is before him.” But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.”* **1 Samuel 16:6-7**

*And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen these.”* **1 Samuel 16:10**

*Then Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here.”* **1 Samuel 16:11**

*And the Lord said, “Arise, anoint him, for this is he.”* **1 Samuel 16:12b**

## Lessons FROM THE PROCESS

### 1 GOD CHOOSES THE UNLIKELY

In Genesis, God chose the meager offer of Abel, not the rich offering of Cain; he bestowed blessing on the wimpy



Jacob, not the man's man—Esau; he promises the Messianic lineage to plain Leah, not the beautiful Rachel; to lead the Exodus he chose stammering Moses over silver-tongued Aaron; as the mother of Israel's greatest prophet, he chooses Hannah over the fertile Penninah.

## 2 IN GOD'S *Kingdom*, CHARACTER IS PARAMOUNT

He prioritizes character over charisma; and that's because what we need in a King is someone who could restore us to God. Our main problem is that we have been separated from God by pride and disobedience, and that means what we most need is someone who can reconnect us to God. God doesn't want us to try to find identity, security and happiness apart from him in a Saul or an Eliab; he wants us to find those things in him.

## 3 *Character* IS BEST FORMED IN THE HIDDEN SPACES

Again, vs. 13 ends with Samuel, the great prophet, his hand on David's head, the oil of anointing running down his neck, the Holy Spirit rushing upon him and then...

**HIDDEN SPACE.**

Make no mistake, God uses the pasture, or the wilderness, to prepare his leaders. That's where God produces in you the character to lead.

*With upright heart he shepherded them and guided them with his skillful hand. Psalm 78:72*

**DON'T WASTE YOUR HIDDEN SPACES.  
BE INTENTIONAL.**

JCC Ladies

# Women's Bible Study Journaling the Word



## It's fun – It's Bible Study!

You are invited to a once-a-month Bible Journal Class at my house on the **THIRD THURSDAY** each month, February-May. Each session would consist of a study topic, discussion, prayer, and time for creative journaling... ultimately you choose your journal as you please—then continue to add to your journal through the week. (*Sharing what you have done is optional.*)

### Session

*Prayer & Sharing 10 minutes*

*Topical study 10-15 minutes*

*Discussion 5-10 minutes*

*Journal work 25-30 minutes*



If interested, please sign up on the clipboard in the vestibule and indicate whether evening or daytime would work best for you: **Thursday 10:00 a.m. or 6:30 p.m.**

Blessings,

*Pastor Phylis*