

CONGRATULATIONS...

to Kerri Wozniak on her selection to play bassoon with the Illinois Music Education Association Orchestra! This is a huge accomplishment—Kerri has only been playing bassoon for a year! Way to go, Kerri!

MAX LUCADO
before amen

THE POWER OF
A SIMPLE PRAYER

Prayer Guides are available to help you organize your praise /prayer requests based on the "Before Amen" template.



OCTOBER 18 / LAUNCH DATE FOR
Operation Christmas Child

A small shoebox can teach a child about the love of God, lead him or her to faith in Christ, inspire pastors, and plant new churches. What goes into the box is fun. What comes out is eternal.

Be a part of changing lives through the power of a simple gift.



**AI
TN**

A *four-week* Bible study that begins on **TUES 10/20** based on the book by *Mark Batterson*.

"If you want God to do something off the chart, you have to take your hands off the controls." Mark Batterson



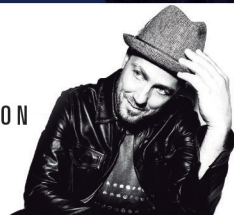
TOBYMAC



TOBYMAC

*****THIS IS NOT A TEST*****
FEATURING BRITT NICOLE & COLTON DIXON

SEARSCENTREARENA
OCTOBER 23/15 @ 7:00 P.M.



CONNECTION CARD Each week everyone will be asked to fill out a Connection Card in order to **"MEASURE"** our church in five key areas. There will be a summary report each week in the bulletin that identifies those five key metrics.

Please turn in your card each week. Members, leaders and guests will be asked to turn these in.





PRODUCTION

- » OCT 04 / ONE DECISION AWAY...
- » OCT 11 / SECOND CHANCES
- » OCT 18 / BEATING THE ODDS
- » OCT 25 / GUEST SPEAKER

PRAYER REQUESTS

Breanna V.	▶ Health Issues
Lily M.	▶ Dementia
Anabelle G.	▶ Lung Cancer
Andrew H.	▶ Health Issues
Noe F.	▶ Health Issues
Elizabeth S.	▶ Health Issues
Kenny D.	▶ Skull Fracture
Trevor W.	▶ Deployed to Afghanistan
Danny L.	▶ Peace Corps Assignment
Sean L.	▶ Loss of His Brother
Ralph H.	▶ Fluid in the brain
Moe M.	▶ Lung Cancer
Ruth S.	▶ Undiagnosed Health Issues
Jim B.	▶ Eye Problems
Mary H.	▶ Health Issues to Mobility
Jane G.	▶ Hospice Care
Darryck T.	▶ Spiritual Strength
Bill L.	▶ Post-Surgical Healing

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Find the things that stir your affections for Christ, and saturate your life in them. And find the things that rob you of that affection, and walk away from them. That's the Christian life as easy as I can make it for you." **-Matt Chandler**

10/04/15



37 ATTENDANCE \$1,507²⁵ GIVING
2 GUESTS 11 VOLUNTEERS
0 DECISIONS FOR CHRIST

TITLE
**LIVING A
BETTER
STORY**

DATE
11
PAGE
8
CHAPTER
21

PRODUCTION

» **SECOND CHANCES –
THE WOMAN WITH THE
ALABASTER BOX**

³⁶ When one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. ³⁷ A woman in that town who lived a sinful life learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, so she came there with an alabaster jar of perfume. ³⁸ As she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them. **Luke 7:36-38**

◇ A BACKSTORY? ◇

We are not told the “backstory”. How are we to understand the woman's actions or Jesus' harsh response to Simon's opinion of her? The only way her actions make sense is if she had **already met Jesus**.

WHO WAS THIS BAD GIRL?

- “a woman who lived a sinful life.” *NIV*
- “the town harlot.” *MESS*
- “a woman of the streets—a prostitute.” *TLB*
- “who was a sinner.” *NET*
- “a certain immoral woman.” *NLT*

◇ HER UNCOMMON ACTIONS ◇

- She washed Jesus' feet with her **tears**.
- She respectfully **kissed his feet**.
- Wiped them with the **hair of her head**.
- Anointed his feet with **perfume**.

SIMON, THE PHARISEE

- Rude
- Inhospitable
- Judgmental
- Neglectful

THE BAD GIRL

- Grateful
- Gracious
- Loving
- Sacrificial

JESUS GIVES SIMON A PIECE OF HIS MIND

⁴¹ “Two people owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. ⁴² Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he forgave the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?” ⁴³ Simon replied, “I suppose the one who had the bigger debt forgiven.” “You have judged correctly,” Jesus said. ⁴⁴ Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. ⁴⁵ You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. ⁴⁶ You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet. ⁴⁷ Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—as her great love has shown. But whoever has been forgiven little loves little.” **Luke 7:41-47**

◇ THE GIFT OF A SECOND CHANCE ◇

⁸ Then Jesus said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.” ⁴⁹ The other guests began to say among themselves, “Who is this who even forgives sins?”

⁵⁰ Jesus said to the woman, “Your faith has saved you; go in peace.”

- Jesus acknowledged, affirmed, and accepted the bad girl.
- Jesus affirmed her show of devotion.
- Jesus displays unconditional kindness to her.
- He goes beyond that—he declares her *forgiveness*.



**OUR GOD IS
A GOD OF SECOND
CHANCES!**