

SESSION 3 | *January 21, 2025*

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

On the Potter's Wheel



with PATTY STUMP

The following pages contain information provided
by our speaker for your study and enrichment.

BILLY
GRAHAM
Training Center *at The Cove*
ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

On the Potter's Wheel

WEEK 3: *Slippage in our Earthenware* Session Guide

“From heaven the LORD looks down and sees all mankind; from his dwelling place he watches all who live on earth—he who forms the hearts of all, who considers everything they do.” – Psalm 33:13-15, NIV

Slippage: _____

1 Samuel 15 — Slippage in the life of Saul

Acts 5:1-11 — Slippage in the lives of Ananias and Sapphira

*“Like a coating of silver dross on earthenware are fervent lips with an evil heart.”
– Proverbs 26:23, NIV*

Takeaways: _____

“You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” – Romans 5:6-8, NIV

On the Potter's Wheel

WEEK 3: *Spiritual Slippage in our Earthenware* Growth Opportunity

Day 1: We'll begin this week by taking a look at our earthly tendencies as God's vessels. Read Acts 4:32-37. What stands out to you from this portion of Scripture? _____

What did Barnabas desire for his actions? _____

Write out 2 Corinthians 6:1. _____

Grace, mercy and love are *unwavering* aspects of God's character. Grace embodies God's favor toward humanity, despite the realities that we are unworthy and undeserving.

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God." – Ephesians 2:8, NIV

James 4:6 states _____

While 1 Corinthians 3:10 exhorts us to _____

We'll end today by writing out Proverbs 4:23. _____

What are essentials in watching over your heart with diligence? _____

Close today in prayer with a focus on Psalm 26:2-3. _____

May God reveal to you any 'residue' that has made itself at home in your vessel.

"What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you—guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us." – 2 Timothy 1:13-14, NIV

Day 2: In our third session together, we addressed “Residue in our Residence.” We looked at Acts 5:1-11—Ananias and Sapphira. Reread this portion of Scripture. What are takeaways of significance?

Now read 2 Corinthians 11:15. What might masquerading “as servants of righteousness” look like?

What will the outcome of masquerading be? _____

*“Surely God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart.
But as for me, my feet had almost slipped; I had nearly lost my foothold.
For I envied the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.” – Psalm 73:1-3, NIV*

If we aren’t careful, we can have ‘slippage in our earthenware.’ Others may not see it but our Adversary certainly does, and so does God.

“Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.” – Proverbs 16:18, NIV

Write out Galatians 6:7. _____

*“The law of their God is in their hearts; their feet do not **slip**.” – Psalm 37:31, NIV*

What are the key points of 1 Timothy 6:10-12? _____

*“For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say ‘No’ to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.”
– Titus 2:11-13, NIV*

As you conclude today, quiet yourself in a posture of prayer before God so that you can discern the stirrings of the Holy Spirit as God speaks to you through your time in His Word.

Day 3: Ananias and Sapphira chose to withhold from God. Sin and strongholds inhabited their hearts. For those who repent and return to God, Romans 8:1 states _____

For days 3 and 4 of this week, let's fine-tune our focus to our hearts. **Matthew 12:34 (NASB) states, "For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart."** Fine-tuning includes paying attention to what is coming forth from our mouths—in private and in public—in close relationships and in casual interactions. 1 Peter 2: 1-3 (NIV) states: *"Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good."* Are there any of these areas in your life where 'spiritual slippage' needs to be tended to?

Spiritual 'weeds' can creep in subtly, creating strongholds. In order to 'rid' ourselves, we must be intentional in tending to stubborn roots that bear bad fruit.

1. 1 John 1:9 states _____
2. Repent, turn from, anything that's not of God. Revelation 2:5 _____
3. Resume walking uprightly: *"Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel"* (Philippians 1:27, NIV).

Day 4: Today's Growth Opportunity will focus once again on our hearts. With each passage noted below, note the Truth(s) that God desires for you to take to heart:

*"But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my **power** is **made perfect** in weakness.' Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's **power** may rest on me"* (2 Corinthians 12:9, NIV). **The Truth God is impressing on my heart to embrace wholeheartedly is:**

“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God’s wrath through him! For if, while we were God’s enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation” (Romans 5:8-11, NIV).

Note Truths God is impressing upon your heart to embrace:

“For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law, nor can it do so. Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God. You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you” (Romans 8:3-11, NIV).

Note Truths God is impressing on your heart to embrace:

“Praise our God, all peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard; He has preserved our lives and kept our feet from slipping. For you, God, tested us; you refined us like silver” (Psalm 66:8-10, NIV).

Note Truths God is impressing on your heart to wholeheartedly embrace:

Day 5: As we conclude this week, I hope God has guided your heart in considering ‘slippage in your earthenware.’ How treasured it is that His tender mercies towards us are *new every morning* (Lamentations 3:23).

I hope this day in January is one that will be lovely enough for you to enjoy a ‘praise walk’ outside. If it’s too cold, snuggle up with a warm beverage by a cozy fire and spiritually soak in the sweetness of God’s sovereignty and His love for you. The Master Potter is tenderly at work in your life, forming and fashioning you ever more into His image as you daily prioritize the pursuit to “*Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength*” (Mark 12:30, NIV).

Reflections:

*“And we also thank **God** continually because, when you received the word of **God**, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word, but as it actually is, the word of **God**, which is indeed **at work** in you who believe.” – 1 Thessalonians 2:13 (NIV)*