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We're On The Web!

[www.genesisinstitute.org](http://www.genesisinstitute.org)

Transforming Lives,  
One Heart at a Time



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You can  
change a life  
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to our  
scholarship  
fund!

## Please Pray For...



Todd

- Distant family, that genuine relationship would occur despite differences.
- Genesis Institute, as we prepare for our upcoming fall fundraiser, Evening of Stories.
- For my children as they prepare for the upcoming school year that they would invest in God, healthy friendships and the growth of their mind.



Amanda

- That the Lord would gather those with like minds and hearts for the Evening of Stories.
- For my clients returning to school and counseling. That through counseling God would develop steadfast spirits in us that firmly plant us in His truth.
- Praise! My husband was hired on Spokane Fire Department. This opportunity is surely a gift from the Lord. Join me in prayer as they start the fire academy September 12.



Crystal

- Wisdom and direction in inviting friends and some of my clients to attend the various classes that Genesis offers. Pray that the Lord will draw the people he would want to be there.
- My clients who struggle with their body image. Please pray that they will begin to look in the mirror with God's eyes, instead of with the world's eyes.
- Praise the Lord for giving Scott and me safety during our vacation travel! Also, thank Him for helping us and our family through a busy and emotional summer of weddings.



Katrina

- The Moody students and faculty as fall semester starts up again.
- My clients as they explore the pain and woundedness in their hearts, that they may find healing and hope in Christ.
- For Genesis' upcoming event, Evening of Stories.



GENESIS INSTITUTE

September 2016

## The Heart of Genesis

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# REGISTER! NOW!

Go to [www.genesisinstitute.org](http://www.genesisinstitute.org)

## Last Chance to Participate!

**Fall Classes Start THIS MONTH—call us now to reserve your spot!**

**\*Spiritual Formation: Soul Restoration will meet on Thursdays from 6:30-8:30pm at Genesis and will begin on September 8th**

**Courageous Parenting will meet on Tuesdays from 6:30-8:30pm at Genesis and will begin September 27th**

**Core Concepts in Biblical Mentoring will meet on Mondays from 7:00-9:00pm at Moody Bible Institute and will begin on September 12**

More Information on our website at [www.genesisinstitute.org](http://www.genesisinstitute.org)

Have You Reserved Your Seat Yet?

## Evening Of Stories 2016

Turn the page to see who our  
**Special Musical Guest is!**

### The Jonah Complex: The Doors We Run From

“God is the God of open doors. He opens doors all around. Who could not want that?”

*I could not want that.” Dr. John Ortberg*

Don't each one of us truly long for God's doors to open to us? Certainly we want the doors of blessing, but what about the scary doors of uncertainty requiring faith? Yet like Ortberg's description, we could not want that. We can resist going through them. We can at times shrink back, not seeing them, or if we do, choose to not walk through them. We sense that the cost could be great, for God's doors do not lead to the threshold of Disneyland. Some doors will take us fleeing our destiny, even hiding out in the belly of a ship trying to sleep it all off (Jonah 1:3) through the slumber of fear and fog of worldly comforts.

Ortberg cites psychologist Abraham Maslow when he called this strange tendency we have to run away from our destiny, “the Jonah complex.” It is an evasion of growth, a defense against calling. Maslow says, “If you deliberately plan to be less than you are capable of being, then I warn you that you'll be deeply unhappy for the rest of your life. You will be evading your own capabilities, your own possibilities.” If we run then we merely exist, we don't really live at all.

Each person has an internal tug-of-war when God opens our doors. C.S. Lewis powerfully speaks to our resistance from God: “We regard God as an airman regards a parachute; it's there for emergencies, but he hopes he never has to use it.” Sadly, we too can exhibit the Jonah complex by running away when we attempt to close God's doors for us: We resist dealing with the nagging troubles in our marriage; we

run away from the conflicts in our work relationships; we avoid getting intimately involved with our kids' troubled worlds because of the pain and faith to persevere. We can run from these challenges because the cost of going through that particular door would be terrifying, requiring God to show up in our storm and trust his strong hand to rescue us.

I have seen my life, and perhaps you can identify some in your life, similar struggles of Jonah-God's providential doorways. While we think we are resisting pain, in reality we are preventing the final outcome of joy. We are called to something significant, something possible, and a life of rich destiny. God is faithfully moving us away from our flight to guide us back on course to a life of full potential and possibilities (Mk. 9:23).

What changes us is finally submitting to God's faithful patience to enter the hard doors we avoid! When we finally step through those God destined doors, only then can we know deep happiness, rich joy, and eternal calling. Let's not evade our own growth and God given possibilities. God insistently calls us back to the doors, for he is committed to our eternal good and his glory. And we can only know our destiny by courageously walking through them!

Warmly in Christ,

**Dave**

Executive Director



**“If we run then we merely exist, we don't really live at all.”**

### Filled To Overflowing!



Proverbs 3:9-10 NIV “Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.”

God wants you to be blessed and successful in this life. He desires to multiply and increase you so that you can be a blessing to other people! He wants to fill you to overflowing. In other words, he wants you to have so much that you can't help but bless the people around you!

**“You will be in a position to bless others and communicate his love everywhere you go!”**

All throughout scripture, we see that giving is a demonstration of his love. When you are a giver, you are displaying who he is and reflecting his character. You will be in a position to bless others and communicate his love everywhere you go!

Today, I encourage you to be faithful and honor the Lord with the first fruits of your income and get ready to be filled with overflowing!

**Thank You to all of you that are so faithful to this ministry!**

*Linda*

### Seasons Bring Change



One of the reasons I have chosen to stay in the northwest for all of my life is because of the beautiful outdoor seasons that provide me and the family with many opportunities for refreshment and enjoyment.

One season begins as another ends and so the cycle goes. Seasons, in a sense, outline our lives and provides a context of life's many stages as seen in the birth, death and renewal cycle. Has been and always will be as the saying goes.

The writer of the Old Testament book Ecclesiastes had a great many things to say about seasons. For instance, in chapter 3 of the book he writes; “For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven”. He went on to write that there is a time to; be born, to die, to plant, to kill, to heal, to break down, to build up, to weep, to mourn, to laugh, to dance, to love, to hate, to have war and a time for peace. A very inclusive list of what goes on under the sun! And now that summer is slowly and sadly coming to an end, a time for fall is looming in the next month ahead. And we know that there is now a time for school as school supply advertisements flood the media sources, a time to end

vacations, a time to focus more on careers, a time to plan for fund raisers such as the Evening of Stories that Genesis sponsors every October, and on it goes.

I suspect that parents of children are now eagerly anticipating the return of school days after a long summer of trying to keep their kids from being too bored? The task of raising kids never seems to have a seasons end as we

**“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven”.**

worry and fret over them for a lifetime. The type and duration of seasons with them change, and our responsibility as parents is to understand that our seasons change as theirs do. The lengthy season for a parent is one of

staying aware of our story and how it is influencing our children as we go through life together.

Genesis will be offering a 12-week Courageous Parenting class on September 27<sup>th</sup> here at the Genesis office. This class is designed to support parents of adolescents as their teens go through the many ups and downs of those difficult years. If interested please contact the Genesis office at 467-7913 or view the web site for more information. The class will be a season of learning.

**Dennis**

## Don't Miss Evening of Stories!

Thursday October 13, 2016 ~ CenterPlace ~ Spokane Valley ~ 6:30pm—8:30pm



Seating is limited and we are filling up fast! REGISTER now to reserve your spot at this incredible event!

With Keynote Speaker: Dr. John Ortberg and Musical Guest: Cami Bradley

