



October 5-7, 2017

PLENARY SESSIONS

**SESSION ONE
REBEKAH MERKLE
REBUILDING FEMININITY**

Our culture has systematically dismantled the entire idea of the feminine, and it has done so very effectively. As Christian women we need to understand the potency of our calling in the light of the Scriptures and recapture the powerful glory of femininity.

Rebekah Merkle has dabbled in a number of occupations ranging from running her own clothing label to designing fabrics to becoming a full-time high school humanities teacher. Author of *Eve in Exile and the Restoration of Femininity*, her proudest accomplishment is her crew of five high-speed teenagers. Her favorite role is that of wife to her similarly high-speed husband Ben.

**SESSION TWO
BARBARA HUGHES
GENDER ANARCHY AND GODLINESS**

Does gender really matter in our quest to live godly lives? In this session, we will explore what the Scriptures reveal is important *to God* in relation to our being women, as opposed to being men, with regard to godliness. We will consider how it is possible to live in accordance with biblical counter cultural demands in a gender denying, godless world that considers obedience to God as hateful.

Barbara Hughes is first and foremost a lover of Christ, wife, mother and grandmother. She has served the Lord alongside her husband in ministry for over fifty years. Her energies in this regard were devoted to the work of women's ministries, Bible study and hospitality. Barbara is co-author and author of several books most notably, *Disciplines of a Godly Woman*. She has a passion for personal evangelism, gardening and oil painting.

SESSION THREE

ELISABETH ELLIOT TRIBUTE

SELAH HELMS with LARS GREN, HUSBAND OF ELISABETH ELLIOT

When Elisabeth Elliot died two years ago, she left us a wealth of writings, recordings, and personal examples revealing a woman who lived with abandon for the God she served. This session will focus on how she was thrust into the limelight during the feminist movement and became a fruitful spokeswoman for biblical gender roles. Her widower, Lars Gren, will share memories that reveal the godly legacy she left to the women of her own generation, and how her life still speaks today.

Selah is a pastor's wife to Doug at Rock Creek Baptist Church, mother to four adult children, grandmother to four. She is an author and an active discipler of young women in her church.

SESSION FOUR

RACHEL JANKOVIC

REFLECTIONS ON CHRISTIAN IDENTITY: WHO YOU ARE AND WHY IT MATTERS

In our world, talk of finding yourself is common. It is a lifelong journey, always a question with no solid answers. What would it look like if Christian women were living confidently in the knowledge that they have been found? Rachel explores some of the ways this would (and should) affect our everyday lives.

Rachel Jankovic is a wife to Luke, mother to seven busy children, and occasional author. She is the author of two books, *Loving the Little Years*, and *Fit to Burst*. She can usually be found up to her elbows in the work of feeding all the people she loves.

SESSION FIVE

MARY LEE BAYLY

Raising Girls in A Gender Confused World

In a world gone crazy with gender Identity Issues, let's talk about what the Bible has to say about the female sex and what it means practically as we raise our daughters. Is it any different from raising sons? Young women today are in a pressure cooker from our culture to conform to the norms of the day. How can we protect them from this pressure?

Mary Lee Bayly is the director of Women's Ministries at Clearnote Church in Bloomington, Indiana. She and her husband Tim, who pastors the church, have been married for 41 years. They

have 5 children and 21 grandchildren. Having fallen prey to the lies of feminism herself in younger years, she works earnestly to help women embrace their God-given calling as set forth in Scripture. When she is not taking care of grandchildren she is counseling women, reading, sewing, or attending births as a doula.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

KELSEY BAKER

Stewards of the Master: Practical Nutrition for the Family

This seminar offers practical tips on the stewardship of our bodies through nutrition. We will focus on budget friendly and time saving ideas to help nourish your family and keep your body energized and ready for the service of our Lord. A better understanding of the dietary needs of our bodies as well as inspiration to help put the knowledge into action is the seminar's goal.

Kelsey graduated from the Master's University with a degree in Family and Consumer Sciences-Nutrition and has a passion for marriage and family, healthy cooking, and encouraging others to create nourishing meals for their families. Kelsey and her husband Jacob are currently pursuing further education at Southwestern Seminary where Kelsey also works as the Administrative Assistant to the Family and Consumer Sciences program.

MARY LEE BAYLY

Loving Outside the Box

Love is one of the most over-used words of all time, but what does it really mean? Who does God want us to love and what does it look like? Let's explore a broader meaning of who our neighbor really is, and how can we love them? Are you willing to step outside your comfort zone and be challenged to love those outside your church and family?

Eyes Wide Open; Prevent Abuse

Do you hear statistics about sexual abuse and think it could never happen to your kids? Or do you live in fear of one of your children being harmed? We want to look at the issue realistically and then help you begin to protect your family. We will talk about how to be vigilant and also how to prepare your children to protect themselves through conversations with them at various ages.

MARY LEE BAYLY & BARBARA HUGHES

Mothering in Every Season of Life

Whether you are single or married, old or young, you are called to nurture and minister to other women. Whatever season of life you are in you can be a spiritual mother to someone younger than you. It is easy to feel intimidated by this kind of challenge, so let's open it up and see how we can all answer the call in Titus 2 for older women to teach younger women.

(See Plenary Bios)

BARBARA HUGHES

Disciplines of a Godly Pastor's Wife

A seminar designed for current and prospective pastors' wives.

Barbara Hughes will share from her decades of experience in ministry. She has a rich heritage of a life of faithfulness to bless other pastors' wives with and loves to spend time with them.

KENDA BARTLETT

Concerned Women for America's (CWA) Executive Director

How to Respond in "Such a Time as This"

From praying, to educating yourself on events happening in your community and in the nation, and concluding with actions you can take, this timely seminar will provide you with an action plan for being an Esther in your community. Included in the seminar are the Biblical mandates to pray for those in authority.

Kenda Bartlett has served as Concerned Women for America's (CWA) Executive Director since 2010. In this role, she oversees the daily operations of CWA. Kenda has spent a total of 30 years as a CWA activist. She was a volunteer leader for CWA for 12 years. Kenda has also worked as a public school teacher and a Christian school administrator. Kenda has served as a City Councilman in Post, Texas, and has served as Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Ethics and Religious Liberties Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention. She and her husband of 48 years, Terry, have two daughters, two "sons-in-love", two wonderful grandsons and a sweet granddaughter. Terry, who is retired from the U.S. Army, recently retired from the Department of Justice where he did training around the world in the area of prisons and jails.

PAT ENNIS

Single Focused

"Overall, there are significantly more unmarried women than men: 89 single men for every 100 single women." This imbalance suggests that a percentage of Christian women will not marry. Paul addresses the practical advantages of singleness in 1 Corinthians. 7:7-9 and 7:25-40. A primary reason for remaining single, according to Paul, is the special freedom and independence afforded to the individual. A wise unmarried woman uses her days of singleness to concentrate on becoming complete in Christ. The seminar focuses on stimulating spiritual maturity in the life of the single woman. (Jeremiah 29:11-13).

Pat Ennis (EdD, Northern Arizona University) is distinguished professor of Family and Consumer Sciences at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and has authored and co-authored several books, including *God is My Strength*.

SELAH HELMS

Pro-life Caregiving, Especially for Women

If statistics continue to be what they have been, it means that almost fifty percent of us will be caregivers for an aging family member or a disabled child or adult sometime during the course of our lives. Will we receive this role with confidence and joy? We need to rediscover the Christian perspective on caregiving and its pro-life implications. Selah speaks as a pastor's wife, mother of four, grandmother of four, and caregiver to a disabled adult son.

(See Plenary Bios)

SUE HULETT

Needy and Needed

In the church we tend to fall into two different thoughts in our interactions with others: reluctance--"who are we to help someone else?" and autonomy, "isn't it enough that I have the Bible in my hands and the Holy Spirit in my heart; why do I need others?" God's plan for personal character transformation has always included other persons in the community of the faith because normal spiritual growth does not take place in isolation, but rather alongside others. My prayer is that we will all see our need of others as well as how others need us.

Sue is wife to Chuck, an elder Arlington Presbyterian Church (PCA) in Arlington, Texas, mother to five grown children, and grandmother to 11 beautiful grandchildren (two more expected in April). She attended Westminster Theological Seminary in Dallas with the CCEF (Christian Counseling & Educational Foundation) counseling program and has been a certified counselor for over 20 years with Association of Certified Biblical Counselors (ACBC -formerly NANC). She and her husband love to spend time with their children and grandchildren, but when given a chance they love to travel the world in awe of the many wonders the Lord has created.

SUSAN KAHLER

Biblical Love: Mastering the (Lost?) Art of Conversation in a Facebook World

In today's world of social media, emails, and texting, we have constant opportunities to promote self (inform others of our own views, "likes," accomplishments, and whereabouts), but how much of our communication qualifies as biblically loving other people? Do we even learn the skills needed to converse with others in a caring way that may lead to bearing one another's burdens? This seminar will teach (and model) some of those skills and look into what Scripture says about the heart that effectively puts them into practice.

Susan serves at Metro Bible Church in Grapevine as an elder's wife and a discipler of younger women.

RACHEL JANKOVIC

Courage and Strength: Mothering with Joyful Endurance

There are many things to say about the role of mothering that would be very familiar to us: it is tiring, we get burned out, it is overwhelming, there is no time for yourself, etc. But what happens when we look at our roles in light of Biblical language? What are we to do? Does the Bible say we are to have energy? Be not tired? Find mothering not challenging?

This session will focus on the application of Biblical language to our roles as mothers. Courage, strength, endurance - these are virtues with handles, things we can hang on to, disciplines we can actually practice as we seek to serve God in our daily lives. Join us as we explore God's provision for our normal problems in His word.

(See Plenary Bios)

REBEKAH MERKLE

Glory Makers

Reflecting glory, Creating Glory, Bestowing Glory

Understanding our feminine role in how we reflect glory, create glory, and bestow glory
(See Plenary Bios)

CATHERINE MACKENZIE

Reformation Women

A study of history, sanctification and what they mean today. A look at the lives of some of the women involved in the Reformation with the focus that Reformation is not simply history. This seminar examines the lives of women who have made impacted the 21st century, how we need to reform our own Christian lives, and why we need to see God at work in our lives through sanctification.

Catherine Mackenzie has been writing biographies for Christian Focus Publications for the past sixteen years. All of her children's material is written with the theme of "redeeming love" and as William Cowperstates, "shall be till I die". This is my prayer... that I will be faithful to Christ in what I write and that His word and His power will bring many to trust in him from all nations.

LAURA TAYLOR

Marks of a Godly Marriage

Marriage is the hub for the home life. After sin came into the world, marriage went from perfect relationally to trouble at home. Come gain explanations for the trouble at home and Biblical reminders for a stronger marriage and more stable home life.

Laura is wife to pastor Wade Taylor at First Baptist Church, Alvarado, Texas, and they have two grown daughters. She is a graduate of Southwestern where she received her Master of Divinity Degree. Laura is a speaker and Bible teacher for retreats and seminars.