**Single Parent Ministry Newsletter**  
Houston's First Baptist

**U-Turn**  
  
When I walked into my new Life Bible Study it felt like everyone knew each other and that I was an outsider. I wondered how in the world they got to know each other so well. I wanted "in" but didn't know how. So I made a simple decision to show up each Sunday.  
  
One week a girl named Gina got up and made an announcement about a girls retreat at our church's Hunt Retreat that was very close to my house. The Director of the class got up and said, "it takes 10-15 Sundays what one weekend retreat will do in a few days." I knew that announcement was for me. And I knew without a doubt that I was supposed to go!  
  
It was in this time of transition that Psalm 37 became very real to me. "Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him". Because even though I wanted and needed friends at that moment He had a much bigger plan than I could ever dream. "Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart" because the Lord wanted me to want him more than anything or anyone else. "Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture" because I needed to reestablish my life centered and focused on Him. These verses are engrained in my heart because I lived them. I can recall many painful days that are attached to them in my memory but honestly wouldn't trade for anything because it reminds me of a time in my life that the Lord was with me.  
  
That early Saturday morning, I arranged for my parents to watch the children and I headed out to Hunt Retreat. I was so excited about going. But as I neared Hunt Retreat a thought flooded my mind, "you don't even know these people". I was stunned by the thought. I even passed the entrance on purpose. But as soon as I passed it I prayed that the Lord would make a comfortable way for me to get to know these women.  
  
You'll be glad to know that I made the U-turn and drove in with my head up. Many of the women I got to know that weekend are still my dearest friends today. So, I'm encouraging you today to make a decision to be in biblical community. By far, one of the best decisions you'll ever make!  
  
Please join us for Midnight Madness this Friday night to hear Pam Kanaly of Arise Ministries from Oklahoma City. It's our annual training for Life Bible Study leaders. If you are interested in serving now or are considering it in the future, JOIN US! View details and register by clicking the picture on left side! Questions? Email [Holly.Crain@HoustonsFirst.org](mailto:Holly.Crain@HoustonsFirst.org)  
  
And if we have not met, I want you to know that I walked into this church 22 years ago with a 5 year old daughter and a 2 month old son in tow. This church embraced me but bigger than that the gospel and what God did in my life changed this common girl forever! And I know He will do the same for you! He will! Enjoy the SPF ministry and the newsletter and get excited about what God has in store for you and your children!  
  
Blessings,  
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