



NAPERVILLE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

May 2018

When Love Hurts by Sharon Jaynes, Proverbs 31 Ministries

"Mommy, Mommy," Steven cried. "Don't let them hurt me!"

My son, Steven, was about 3 years old when he contracted a severe case of the flu. His slumped body snuggled listlessly like an old, worn rag doll.

When I carried him into the medical clinic, the doctor quickly diagnosed dehydration and immediately sent us to the hospital.

My heart ripped apart as the nurses strapped my little boy onto a table and began placing IVs in his tiny arms.

"Mommy, Mommy," Steven cried. "Make them stop! They're hurting me."

"No, honey," I tried to assure him. "They're going to make you all better."

"Mommy, help me!"

Steven cried. I cried. The nurses cried.

I could only imagine what was going through Steven's little mind. *Why are these people hurting me? Why doesn't Mommy make them stop? She must not love me. She's not protecting me. If she loved me she wouldn't let them do this. She must not care about me.*

Standing in the corner watching my little boy cry, I wondered if that's how God feels when I'm going through a painful situation that's for my ultimate good. I cried out, *"God, why are You letting this happen? Don't You love me? Don't You care about what's happening to me? Why don't You make it stop?"*

It was a picture I wouldn't soon forget.

I envisioned God speaking to me in my pain. *You don't understand the reason for the pain. You might think I've deserted you, but I will never leave you. You might think I don't love you, but I love you to the height of heaven and the depth of the sea. You might think I don't care about what's happening to you, but I am orchestrating your days and care about every hair on your head. My ways are higher than your ways, and My thoughts are higher than your thoughts. Yes, I do care about you and what's happening to you. In the end, this will make you better.*

C.S. Lewis, who watched his beloved wife die of cancer, put it this way: "God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pains: It is His megaphone to rouse a deaf world."

Because God loves us, He desires our conformity more than our comfort. Allowing troubles, trials and pain is one way our loving God makes that so. No one likes getting stuck with a sharp needle, but if the needle brings healing or prevents greater suffering, it's just what we need. Faith in Jesus Christ does not guarantee an easy life but a perfect eternity.

"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:38-39 (NIV)

Happenings in CM!

SuperStart!

We all had a wonderful weekend at the Superstart Conference for 4th/5th/6th graders. We learned that the Bible gives us wisdom to make good choices, resist temptation and how to serve others. Our Scripture memory verse was "But he said, 'Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!' Luke 11:28





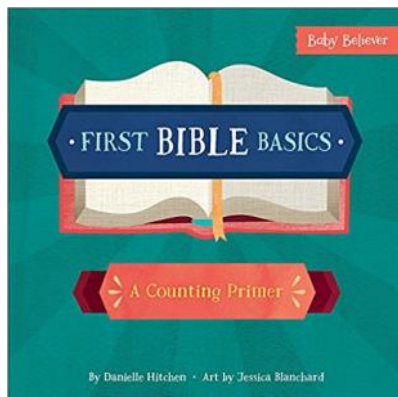
We played human hungry hippos at our first UPROAR event in March! Don't miss our next event on May 4th from 6-8pm for 4th-12th Grade. We will eat dinner and head out for our Bigger and Better Challenge! RSVP to Amy or Jan by April 30th!

NPC VBS IS ON THE WAY!

**MONDAY-THURSDAY
JUNE 25-28
FROM 1-3:30PM.**

**EARLY BIRD RATE: \$25
PER CHILD IF REGISTERED ON
OR BEFORE MAY 26.**

**REGISTER ONLINE @
NPCHURCH.ORG/VBS2018**



The May Book of the Month is *First Bible Basics: A Counting Primer* by Danielle Hitchen.

Your Kid Can Count on God! Your family will love this totally unique board book! Each page features colorful, engaging artwork, reframing abstract, but vitally important biblical content into the manageable concept of basic numbers (1-10) for your young child.



May

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|---|---------|-----------|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 Youth choir 4:30pm. | 4 Prayer for students in den at 9:30am. All are welcome! UPROAR Bigger and Better event for 4th-12th grade from 6-8pm. Dinner will be served. | 5 |
| 6 Classes for Infants-5th Grade during the 9:30 Service and during Discipleship Hour from 11am to Noon. Today is a Communion Sunday. | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 Prayer for students in den at 9:30am. All are welcome! | 12 |
| 13 Classes for Infants-5th Grade during the 9:30 Service and during Discipleship Hour from 11am to Noon. | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 Prayer for students in den at 9:30am. All are welcome! | 19 |
| 20 Classes for Infants-5th Grade during the 9:30 Service and during Discipleship Hour from 11am to Noon. | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 Prayer for students in den at 9:30am. All are welcome! | 26 VBS early bird deadline. |
| 27 Infant—PreK only during the 9:30 service. K- 5th Grade will join their families in worship. No discipleship hour today. | 28  | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |