

W E L C O M E , T O , M O P S ,

We are excited that you are in MOPS this year! We have room to grow, so bring a friend. We think it is a wonderful program and we hope you get as much out of it as we have. It is a great time to connect with moms and share your faith together. But MOPS is much more than a social time. Here are 11 things to know about MOPS.

- Significance: Moms need to know their mothering matters
- Identity: Sometimes a mother is not sure who she is
- Growth: Moms long to develop who they are
- Intimacy: Moms long to be understood
- Instruction: Moms need to know what to do
- Help: Moms need to share their load
- Recreation: Moms need a break
- Perspective: Sometimes Moms lose their focus
- Hope: Sometimes Moms wonder if there is more to life
- Friendship: Moms need other Moms!
- Faith: Rely on God for all your needs

Since life changes all the time, your needs will change as well. MOPS is a place where you can ground yourself and find focus among friends. There are going to be a lot of interesting and relevant speakers this year, as well as new fun events. Jump in and get to know some new friends this year!

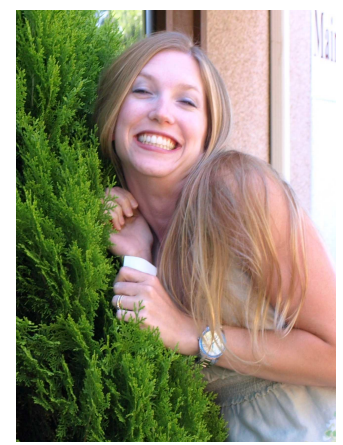
If there is any way we can encourage you in your personal life and in spiritual growth, please be sure to let one of the MOPS steering team members or mentor moms know. We are here to help you!

Your 2011-12 steering team

A N O T E F R O M Y O U R C O O R D I N A T O R

Welcome to a new year at MOPS! If you are here for the first time, I hope you feel welcome, if you are returning, welcome back! I honestly can't believe it is September already, this summer has just flown by for me. I am looking forward to getting back into a routine and hopefully slowing down. I am also looking forward to meeting each and every one of you so please introduce yourself in the brunch line. MOPS is about making and building friendships and I truly pray that is what you find here this year at your table. I remember when I came to my first meeting and had no clue what was going on but I was able to get to know some moms at my table and realize that I am not alone in the struggles I face raising my kids. We were able to laugh together, cry together, eat together and just plain have fun together. I pray that this year at your table it is the same way. We have some fabulous things planned for this year and you won't want to miss any of it!

With Love,
Katy



2011-12

Theme

M O M S E N S E

MomSense: Bold • Loving • Sensible – equips moms to embrace their mothering instincts and develop their own parenting style while navigating through the myriad of daily mom decisions. Most women wonder:

- How do I decide what to do when I really don't know what to do?
- Should I trust my intuition?
- With so much available information, how do I discern what's best?
- What are the most important family values?

Developing a mothering strategy is somewhat like playing a game — and this year's theme is appropriately game related. Have fun being a mom! Playing games involves being bold and taking risks, loving those in the game with us and being sensible while figuring out what works and what doesn't.

Just as in real-life, sometimes in games, unexpected, "chance" events occur, abruptly changing our paths. We must regroup and determine our next steps. Sometimes we follow the instructions of "experts." Sometimes we follow the advice of trusted friends. Sometimes we decide our "house rules" work best for our family. Teaming together with other moms is a great strategy. Relying on a spouse or mentor can help us play more effectively. And, most of all, developing a strong God-Sense is essential for mothering. Growing as a mom through the analogy of game playing assures every mom gains confidence in her abilities as a mom.

Thank you to Steering, Mentor Moms and DGL's for brunch this morning.

Sept 27 Brunch:
Main Dish – Chocolate
Side– Silver
Dessert– Red

Sept 27 MOPPETS:
Yellow Table

The spiritual foundation of the theme is from 2 Timothy 1:7. As you read the whole chapter, you see that Timothy had a strong mother and grandmother who nurtured his faith. Paul exhorts Timothy to use the gifts God has given him in a bold, loving and sensible way.

God doesn't want us to be shy with his gifts, but bold and loving and sensible.
(2 Timothy 1:7 The Message)



MENTOR MOMENT

Good Morning, Ladies!

Welcome to MOPS! We are so glad that you are here to share some time mom-to-mom and friend-to-friend.

Take a look at the other women at your table... you will spend a great amount of time with these other moms during this 2011-12 MOPS year. What a privilege meet with other women in your same stage of life, with similar challenges, and many of the same questions and concerns.



Also, watch as your steering team and mentor moms are introduced today... we are here to encourage you, help you, listen to you and to watch you grow and learn as a mom. All of our email addresses are on the back of this newsletter (and will be each time) so that you can reach out with any need or concern that comes your way this MOPS year.

You can look forward to great discussion



Like us on Facebook — Morning MOPS at Grace Community Church (Auburn, WA)

Stay connected, watch for announcements, post pictures, and plan outings!

time, get-togethers outside the meetings with your group, great speakers, fun crafts, a hot brunch (and sometimes donuts!!) and many caring, listening friends.

Again, welcome! ~Ramona

BIBLE STUDY

To know God is to know His character, and that character is revealed in His names. Each name is an aspect of His sovereignty over your life. If you want a deeper, abiding faith, this study will help you see and understand how powerfully He works.

MOPS Bible Study meets opposite Tuesdays of MOPS. All children must be in childcare. Lead by Cynthia Hickok. To sign up, email Cynthia at **Sisu1st@aol.com**.

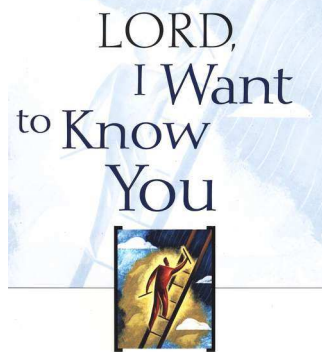
Book charge—\$12

Childcare charge—\$12 (first semester payable at first meeting)

Cynthia will collect fees on the first day of class.



[A Devotional Study on the Names of God]



KAY ARTHUR

NOTES

STEERING

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