

**April 10, 2018**

I had the opportunity to attend the April meeting of our Christian Women's Fellowship last week. Aside from the regular order of business – mainly planning the group's ministry for the rest of the year, Jackie Harris presented a lesson on spiritual discipline. She introduced it by saying that she wasn't particularly good at practicing it, but the essay she read on it kept calling to her. The lesson was on being still and listening to God. Being still in today's busy world is difficult at best. I struggle with it constantly. For one thing, when I finally set aside time to sit and listen to God, I keep falling asleep! When I brought that up, several other CWF members nodded their heads. One woman of the group said she felt guilty when that happened to her, like she was disappointing God. I asked her how she would feel if one of her beloved children was to try her best to please her but still didn't get something quite right. Would she be angry with her child, or would she be joyful when she saw how hard her daughter was trying? I'm going with joyful. I believe we are God's children, and God is thrilled when we use everything we've got to reach out to God and do what God wants us to do. None of us gets it perfectly right no matter how hard we try, but God understands that we are still works in progress and loves us beyond human comprehension. How grateful I am for that, and how blessed we are by our God. Can I get an amen?