

## **About Faith, Hope & Love—the Infertility Bible Study**

**The infertility Bible study began when one courageous couple shared their story with an entire congregation. Other couples came forward, and the group began to search for scripture-based answers to questions about the meaning of their infertility experience and God’s role in it.**

*Excerpted from **Pregnant with Hope**, Chapter 1:*

**Michelle:** At this point, God was not part of our journey. We were trying to do it under our own power. It was hard because I was so intensely focused on the medical part of trying to get pregnant. And at a reproductive clinic, all you do is have tests and meet with doctors, week in and week out. I know that God was with us, alongside us, grieving with us... but we didn’t invite Him to be part of our whole journey.

We didn’t want to go to church anymore because of the grief of seeing baptisms, or Mother’s Day and Father’s Day. We couldn’t do Sunday school when all they do is talk about their kids. There was really no place for us. We felt like, “Why is this happening?” I didn’t understand why.

**James:** I sure came close to being angry at God. I didn’t understand at all. And you come to that point where you think it can’t get worse....

**Michelle:** We went to the church and said, “We’re struggling! We feel so isolated. We need help. There’s no place for us to go. There are all these groups, but where do we fit in? We don’t fit in anywhere. We’re not single, we’re not married with children... we’re childless.”

We knew we weren’t the only couple in this enormous church with infertility. There had to be others who were struggling like we were struggling, and felt alone, like we felt. We wanted to start a Bible study. We wanted to grow in our faith so that we could understand why this was happening, that we weren’t alone, and so we could build community with others.

**James:** The spotlight was definitely on us because it was a story about our personal experience, but it felt like getting a weight off my back to get it out—and hopefully help other people. I felt pretty good that this might help us all out, somehow.