



# melanie dale

speaking packet

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Thank you for your interest in bringing in Melanie to speak at your event! Here's a little info to help with your planning.

## Speaking Endorsements

"Bringing in Melanie Dale to speak at our church was one of the best decisions we've made. Not only is she humorous and engaging, but she is also honest and real. Her stories invite you into the moment. But it's her love of Jesus that brings clarity, comfort, and hope. We have heard story after story of how her words have encouraged, inspired, and renewed. Whether you ask Melanie to speak on making friends in a scary world or how to find joy in the hardships of life, she will make your people laugh and she will give them reason to hope."

**KELLY BOSCH, DIRECTOR OF ADULT MINISTRIES, CROSSROADS CHURCH, WOODBURY, MINNESOTA**

"Melanie Dale is a very engaging speaker. She spoke to our group about 'Momrelationships' with humor, insight, and wisdom. The young moms in our group, many who are longing for real relationships with other women, loved hearing what she had to say!"

**PAULA DANIEL, MOM 2 MOM LEADER, DOGWOOD CHURCH, TYRONE, GEORGIA**

"Melanie is a dynamic author who can take any situation and turn it into a hilarious story. She has a way with words that is so fun and endearing, and laugh out loud funny! Melanie spoke at our annual Christmas Brunch, and from start to finish she was wonderful to work with. She was super responsive, open to ideas, enthusiastic, and her talk was humorous and filled with personal stories. It was a great morning!"

**ALISON RAO, MOTHERS TOGETHER LEADER, MENLO CHURCH, MOUNTAIN VIEW, CALIFORNIA**

"It was a delight to work with Melanie and have her SKYPE into our MOPS meeting. She shared her stories in an authentic, transparent manner and coupled it with her humor to deliver a message which spoke volumes to our group in how we connect as women. I was impressed at how she related to the audience, even via video, and answered all of our serious relationship questions. I would recommend having Melanie speak at any gathering!"

**SUSAN CABANA, MOPS LEADER, FREEPORT, MAINE**

# Speaking Topics

Here are some talks she's given. (She's happy to speak on any of these or cook up something new to fit your event.)

## **Making Real Friends in a Scary World**

Have you ever felt like other women are scary? In a world filled with judgment and comparison, we can struggle with insecurity and feel overwhelmed and lonely. We're better together. We make each other better moms, better humans. We need each other, because mothering is so darn hard. Finding mom friends can feel like dating, and just like the other kind of dating, there are bases. Let's talk about going around the "Bases of Momlationship" and how we can develop authentic relationships with the women in our lives.

## **Mobilizing Moms: Out of the Minivan and Into the World**

Learn fun, practical ideas to develop a group of moms in your community, utilize your strengths and gifts, transform regular life stuff into opportunities to care for orphaned and vulnerable children, and involve the whole family in serving together.

## **Learning to Love the Life You Didn't Choose**

When parenting is different than you thought it'd be, when your job or marriage or family isn't what you thought you'd have, when you saw your life going one way, and it goes a completely different direction, how do you deal with that? How can we learn to love the lives we didn't choose? We'll talk about how to cope, what helps and what doesn't, and where God is in all of it. There's no fluffy bow or shiny bumper sticker, but we can learn to love our lives, right where we are.

## **My Mix Tape: Make Your Faith, Life and Passion Work Together**

You see the world around you and a whole bunch of people who need help, but you're crazy overwhelmed and feel tiny. How do you squish your regular life, your writing, and your passion for people into one kerfloofy life? Let's talk about how to engage your readers and invite your family into opportunities to love others, from your neighborhood to the big wide world. You can dump all of yourself onto one awesome mix tape, the soundtrack to a life fully lived.

# Speaking Samples



Sunday morning Mother's Day message at Crossroads Church, MN:  
<https://vimeo.com/165773956>



Interview at Northpoint Campus Woodstock City Church, GA  
<http://woodstockcity.org/messages/storytellers-its-not-fair/>



Panelist on MomsEveryday TV Show, CO:  
<https://youtu.be/ittH73cyg-Q?t=4m18s>

# Speaking Engagements

## 2017

### **Declare Conference**

October 2-4, 2017  
Dallas, Texas

### **REST for the Moms Retreat**

September 15-16, 2017  
Newnan, Georgia

### **The Exchange**

May 18, 2017  
Cumming, Georgia

### **Army Rangers Spouse Luncheon**

April 22, 2017  
Banning Mills, Georgia

### **A Day of Hope Foster and Adoption Conference**

March 18, 2017  
Marietta, Georgia

### **Happy Hour with Jamie Ivey LIVE**

March 11, 2017  
Austin, Texas

### **Our Lady of the Assumption Retreat**

January 13, 2017  
Atlanta, Georgia

## 2016

### **Dogwood Church Mom 2 Mom**

February 25, 2016  
Tyronne, Georgia

### **Army Rangers Spouse Luncheon**

February 27, 2016  
Savannah, Georgia

### **Crossroads Church**

May 6-8, 2016  
Woodbury, Eagan, and  
Cottage Grove, Minnesota

### **MOPS**

August 26, 2016  
Senoia, Georgia

### **Ladies Night Out at Celebration Church**

September 13, 2016  
Blountville, Tennessee

### **MOPS**

September 16, 2016  
Newnan, Georgia

### **MOPS**

October 3, 2016  
Georgetown, TX

### **MOPS**

October 6, 2016  
Fayetteville, Georgia

### **Woodstock City Church (North Point Campus)**

October 30, 2016  
Woodstock, Georgia

### **First Baptist Orlando Mom 2 Mom**

December 5, 2016  
Orlando, Florida

### **An Evening of Mugs and Hugs at First Baptist Winter Garden**

December 5, 2016  
Winter Garden, Florida

## 2015

### **Menlo Church Mothers Together Christmas Brunch**

December 10, 2015  
Mountain View, California

### **Allume Conference**

October 15-17, 2015  
Greenville, South Carolina

### **MOPS**

October 7, 2015  
Freeport, Maine

### **TOGETHER Adoption and Fostering**

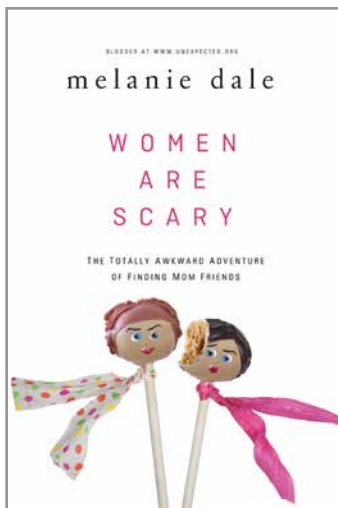
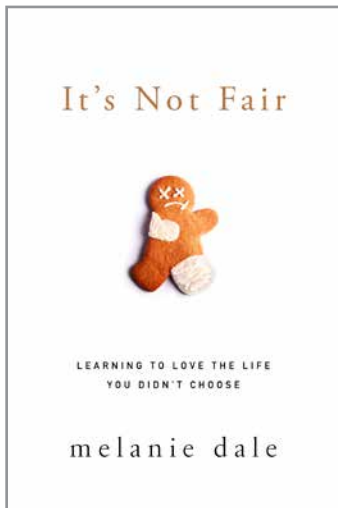
October 6, 2015  
Peachtree City, Georgia

### **Christian Alliance for Orphans Summit**

April 30-May 1, 2015  
Nashville, Tennessee

# Books

Published by Zondervan



# About Melanie

Melanie Dale is a minivan mama and total weirdo who stinks at small talk. Her laugh is a combination honk-snort, and it's so bad that people have moved away from her in the movie theater. She adores sci-fi and superheroes and is terrified of Pinterest. Author of *Women Are Scary: The Totally Awkward Adventure of Finding Mom Friends* and *It's Not Fair: Learning to Love the Life You Didn't Choose*, she's also a contributor for Coffee+Crumbs and an advocate for Children's HopeChest. Her writing has been featured on Parenting.com, Scary Mommy, Working Mother Magazine, Deadspin's Adequate Man, Ann Voskamp's A Holy Experience, and Today's Christian Woman, and she's a panelist for MomsEveryday TV. Living in the Atlanta area, she enjoys recording her podcast, Lighten Up with Melanie Dale, and blogging at Unexpected.org.

# Speaking Fees

30-45 minute talk via SKYPE:	\$150
One-hour talk + one night stay	\$500 + travel and hotel
Two one-hour talks + one night stay	\$800 + travel and hotel
Three one-hour talks + one night stay	\$1000 + travel and hotel
Four one-hour talks + two night stay	\$1500 + travel and hotel

# Contact

For more info or booking, contact Melanie:

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**Web:** unexpected.org/speaking

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