



CHAPTER FIVE
WORD-FILLED WOMEN'S MINISTRY
"THE WORLD AROUND US, PRACTICING EVANGELISM"
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"Women's ministry, grounded in Bible study effectively carries out the great commission."

I. WHY SHOULD WE USE BIBLE STUDY AS A MEANS OF EVANGELISM?

A. Common Misconceptions:

1. Isn't Bible study primarily for building up the maturity of those who are believers?
2. How is Bible study relevant to the desperate situation non-believers are in?
3. Doesn't a base' academic exercise such as Bible study put a damper on evangelistic enthusiasm?

II. BIBLE STUDY FUELS OUR EVANGELISTIC ZEAL.

"We do not feel inclined to invite others to the banqueting feast if we are standing off to the side sipping a cup of lukewarm pond water."

A. Bible study brings joy and satisfaction:

1. Romans 10:17 "faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."
2. Psalm 119:20 "My soul is consumed with longing for your rules at all times."
3. Psalm 119:130 "The unfolding of your words gives light; it imparts understanding to the simple. I open my mouth and pant, because I long for your commandments."
4. Bible study does not distract from missions and evangelism but rather it equips.

"Spreading worship of the risen Christ through evangelism is a reflex of having tasted and seen His goodness in God's word."

DISCUSSION: Do you have any personal misconceptions of Bible study fueling evangelism? In what ways has this study changed your thoughts on Bible study as it pertains to evangelism? How does scripture affirm the importance of God's word in evangelism?

B. Study of the word feeds the soul:

“God created us and our neighbors to be food dependent creatures.”

1. John 6:51 “I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever.”
2. Studying God’s word helps me focus outward instead of inward.
3. God’s word draws the non-believer in.

“Jesus aims to satisfy us with himself forever, and it is through his living and active Word that he offers the revelation of himself.”

C. God's Plan:

1. God’s gospel: God decides the good news that we need.
2. God defines the content of the message.
3. God determines the outcome of his good news being believed.
4. God wants us to share with everyone. Colossians 3:12
5. Romans 10:17 “faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.”
6. Using God’s word for evangelism - takes the pressure off us.

DISCUSSION: Are you currently involved in a Bible study? Do you feel the freedom to bring non-believers? Who would you invite? What are some ways you are currently living out the Great Commission?

III. BIBLE STUDY EQUIPS HEALTHY AMBASSADORS:

“We take with us the message we have been given, which is God’s word - cherished, believed, obeyed, and meditated on day and night.”

- A. Spirit-empowered word - work happening everywhere and in different ways.
- B. Celebrate the diversity of the word going out.
- C. Message of hope to the nations, strength for ministry, comfort in our troubles.

IV. BIBLE STUDY MARKS THE SPOT FOR ALL OF US

- A. Eternal implications for our destiny in Jesus Christ.
- B. The climax of our life has already happened at the cross and at the empty tomb.
- C. We are the “Body of Christ” (1 Corinthians 3:16-17, Ephesians 2:19-22)
- D. Through Bible studies non-believers see the big picture and where they belong in light of God’s redemption story.
- E. Not that he is included in our story but that he includes us in his story.

V. BIBLE STUDY SHOWS US GOD

“The Word of God shines its light into the dark places of our hearts.”

- A.** The Spirit of God uses the word as his instrument of conviction, edification, pruning, instructions and rebuke, which ultimately leads to abundant life and fruit bearing.
- B.** Word-filled women have a particular gift for helping along other women who are seeing God in His word and seeing themselves in light of that Word, wrestling through sin issues, and battling temptation.
- C.** Psalm 14:10 “Who is the King of glory, The Lord of host, He is the kind of glory.”
- D.** We are fed in our Bible studies, but the purpose is to also feed others through Bible studies.
- E.** “Come to me.” Malachi 3:2, Romans 10:4, Revelation 22:17

VI. BIBLE STUDY TURNS GUEST INTO HOSTS

“Bible study should not be thought of as an optional, peripheral arm for reaching women with the gospel. Bible study is as core to soul winning as the digestive system is to fueling the body.”

- A.** John 6:48 “taste and see that the bread of life is good”
- B.** John 6:33 “For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”

DISCUSSION: Has someone ever invited you to participate in a Bible study? How has Bible study personally impacted your life? How are you currently using Bible study as a means of evangelism?