



SESSION 3: Faith That Works

March 1, 2017

“Some [seed] fell on good earth and came up with a flourish, producing a harvest exceeding her wildest dreams. Are you listening to this? Really listening?”

Mark 4:8, The Message

flourish: To be _____ and _____ in that particular place where you have the greatest influence for Christ on this planet.

❖ **If we're going to have a life that flourishes beyond our wildest dreams, we're going to have to:**

- 1) PAY _____ TO GOD'S WORD: Eliminate to concentrate
- 2) _____ GOD'S WORD: Do small things well to God's glory
- 3) _____ TO GOD'S WORD: Put it to _____ in my _____!

There is no woman more _____ ... no woman more _____ to the enemy than a woman who _____ God's Word and _____ it!

“And without faith it is _____ to please God, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.”

Hebrews 11:6

HEBREWS 11: _____

By an act of faith I, _____, have/am/will... _____ to the glory of God!

✝ *Please prayerfully consider the THREE COMMITMENTS for next week's message:*

THE GATHERING OF WOMEN

GATHER »»»→ TEACH »»»→ EQUIP »»»→ FLOURISH »»»→

LIFE – ON – LIFE: Gathering Together

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer... Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Acts 2:42, 46-47

What's a Gathering of Women?

Simply put- it's women gathering together *intentionally*; gathering together for community and conversation around the person of Jesus Christ and His Word; sharing life, sharing your hearts, stirring up one another to love and good works, praying for one another to grow to love Jesus more and more. You don't have to be a "teacher"- you just have to be committed to Jesus and His Truth. Pray for your time together. Ask the Holy Spirit to lead you, and let Him. Be intentional. Be yourself. Be available. Be open. Be willing to risk. Be ok with not having all the answers. Be committed to this as a lifestyle. Have fun!

Our hope is that the Gathering of Women large group gatherings will result in many other ***gatherings of women*** in groups of 2 or 4... sharing life together and having important conversations about faith... spiritual discussions with women you run into every day in your everyday life: friends and acquaintances, co-workers, colleagues, soccer moms and homeschoolers, believers and seekers, hammering out practical life applications... the "how to" about how the Bible really works in your everyday life and the big difference Jesus has made in you- for real. *That's LIFE-ON-LIFE... intentional, Gospel-centered discipleship!*

Never underestimate the power of a personal invitation, a table, a cup of coffee...and Jesus!

LIFE-ON-LIFE TOOLS- to help you grow and flourish in your faith and help other gals to do the same:

❖ **READ THE SCRIPTURES: Hebrews 11:6**

• **Observation:** What does the passage say? What's going on? Be observant, thoughtful, like a detective. What do you see? What is actually being stated in the text? Give 3 or 4 observations.

• **Interpretation:** What does the passage mean? What is the main theme?

• **Application:** What am I going to do about what the passage says and means?

- What does this verse tell you about God? How will you respond?
- What does this verse say to you about you? How will you respond?

Other application questions:

- *Is there an example for me to follow?*
- *Is there a sin to avoid?*
- *Is there a promise to claim?*
- *Is there a prayer to repeat?*
- *Is there a command to obey?*
- *Is there a condition to meet?*
- *Is there a verse to memorize?*
- *Is there an error to mark?*
- *Is there a challenge to face?*

• **Response:** Where do you need this verse in your life? How and when will you apply this to your life? Who will you tell to hold you accountable?

❖ **HAVE THE CONVERSATION** (based on today's message): **Faith works. So, how is faith working in your life?**

- What does "living and active" faith mean to you?
- Where do you need God's Word alive and active in your present circumstances?
- Share verses with one another that you can "sow" into your circumstances and pray for one another.

❖ **#SHOWHERHOW**

- Show your friend how to become more comfortable using her bible by helping her to do a word study using the concordance in the back of her bible to look up passages that contain a particular word- such as "fear" or "courage" or "peace". You can also do a word search at www.biblegateway.com.

❖ **CHALLENGE: Eliminate to concentrate. Disconnect to reconnect.**

How are you doing with your 21-day challenge- eliminating distractions like social media, devotionals...? (If you missed last week you can download the handout online at thetolsongroup.com/resources/gathering-of-women/)

- **What are some of the things you've noticed personally since beginning the challenge?**