



FACILITATOR'S GUIDE

KNOW HIS CALLING IN THE WORLD

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GOAL: To know the hope of God's calling for us as women in our world.

GUIDANCE: Esther; Romans 16; 1 Corinthians 14; 1 Timothy 2.

GEM: "I commend unto you Phebe our sister, which is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea: That ye receive her in the Lord, as becometh saints, and that ye assist her in whatsoever business she hath need of you: for she hath been a succourer of many, and of myself also" (ROMANS 16:1-2).

DIFFERENT CALLING

LEADER PREPARATION AND GUIDELINES

- (1) Each person needs a Bible, 3x5 cards, and a notebook for use as a journal.
- (2) Begin each lesson with prayer and ask for the Holy Spirit to guide you.
- (3) Familiarize yourself with the material for each study and answer all the questions.
- (4) Stress memorization of the Scriptures.
- (5) Lead with enthusiasm and excitement. Remember, you set the tone.
- (6) Use the ideas in the *WNAC Program and Plan Book: THAT YOU MAY KNOW*.
- (7) Encourage each lady in your church to attend the study. Give invitations.
- (8) Start and end your meetings on time. Value the participant's time.
- (9) Allow time for ladies to share their own thoughts, but keep personal experiences to a minimum. You want to stress what the Bible says.
- (10) Allow time for fellowship either at the beginning of class or the end.

INTRODUCTION

Have you ever heard the story of Laura Belle Bernard, Molly Barker, Trula Cronk or other missionary pioneers? Their lives were spent in missionary work. It sounds so romantic and adventurous to be able to go to a foreign country and work. In truth, it was probably the hardest thing that they ever had to do. Yet, they undertook their jobs with faithful service and dedicated consecration to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I believe they loved serving the Lord and the people they were ministering to. Otherwise, why would they spend all those years away from everything they had known?

When God calls missionaries, He equips them with the fortitude, tenacity, wisdom, strength, and humbleness it takes to get the job accomplished. Missionaries are made out of strong moral



fiber and a deep abiding core of goodness necessary to deal with the thousands of issues they face. It's not everyone who is called to serve as a career missionary. But we are all called to be God's helpers if we've accepted Him as our Lord and Savior. We can serve Him on American soil just as well as we can from Russia, Mexico, Spain, France or any other country.

I would love to go somewhere where the gospel has never been shared, to conquer new worlds with the Good News, to help start brand new Bible-believing churches, to go where no man has gone before. That is my dream, my vision, my ambition, but time is running out for me. The twilight years are fast approaching and I may never accomplish the lofty goals I've listed. However, as long as the Lord allows me breath and a voice, I will do my best to spread the news that Jesus loves people and wants them to have eternal life with Him in Heaven. It is my calling, your calling and the calling of everyone who claims the name of Jesus to witness for Him. We are women of God, women of purpose, women of truth and women for "such a time as this." Let's make the best of our lives where God has placed us. Be a missionary for your Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

WEEK ONE: ESTHER, THE UNINTENTIONAL MISSIONARY

(Esther 2, 4, 8, 9)

- 🌐 Write the GEM on a 3 x 5 card for review.
- 🌐 Go over the questions and answers for Week One, p. 19.
- 🌐 If you had been in Esther's situation, how would you have handled it?
- 🌐 Do you think she was brave or naïve? *(Esther 4:11)*
- 🌐 Describe how Mordecai treated Esther. Did he *make* her go before the King with the request to save their people? *(He didn't make her, but he persuaded her with his words of how serious the circumstances were—Esther 4:12-14.)*
- 🌐 Who was definitely on Esther's side? *(God was on her side. Why else would she ask her people to fast for her?—Esther 4:16)*
- 🌐 Do you believe that fasting before God helps?
- 🌐 Could you have hosted a dinner party (two nights in a row) for a man who wanted to kill you and all of your family? *(Esther 5:4, 8, 12)*
- 🌐 In the end, what happened to Haman, Esther's enemy? *(He was hanged on the gallows built for Mordecai—Esther 7:10.)*
- 🌐 Did the king issue the decree for the Jews' safety because of his love for Queen Esther? *(Esther 2:17; 5:2; 8:3-5)*
- 🌐 Have you ever been in a situation where you had to completely trust and obey God for direction and wisdom? Tell a little about it if you can be discreet.
- 🌐 Make an entry in your journal and describe an incidence where you had to fully rely on the Lord for His guidance and protection.
- 🌐 Plan a night to watch the DVD, "One Night With The King."
- 🌐 Close in prayer and thank God for missionary opportunities He's given you.

WEEK TWO: PRISCILLA, THE INTENTIONAL MISSIONARY *(Acts 18)*

- 🌐 Read the GEM together.
- 🌐 Go over the questions and answers for Week Two, p. 20.



- 🌐 Paul portrayed Priscilla and Aquilla as an ideal model of Christianity—friendly, hospitable, and generous. Do you know any couples like that?
- 🌐 Who make up the church of God? (*People, dependent on Christ and one another, people having faith through righteousness—Galatians 6:2, 2 Peter 1:1.*)
- 🌐 Would you agree that Paul was a great apostle and evangelist?
- 🌐 Did he accomplished everything singlehandedly? (*No, he had Christian friends like Aquilla and Priscilla, Timothy, Barnamus, Mark and others who helped him tremendously.*)
- 🌐 Have you ever held any type of church activity in your home? If so, what was it?
- 🌐 Name some church activities or ministries that can be done in a home setting? (*Bible studies, fellowships/socials, staff or Sunday school meetings, youth activities, or prayer meetings*)
- 🌐 What type of marriage relationship do you suppose Priscilla and Aquilla had? (*A very strong Christian marriage where they opened the Word of God together.*)
- 🌐 Do you feel that God’s Word is necessary for enriching relationships with each other?
- 🌐 Why were Aquilla and Priscilla willing to move so much? (*Partly out of necessity because Nero was persecuting the Christians in Rome, to be of help wherever they could to Paul, and to plant new churches in as many places as possible.*)
- 🌐 Are you looking for opportunities to share Christ wherever you go?
- 🌐 Make an entry in your journal and describe your willingness to be used of God to effectively spread the Gospel.
- 🌐 Close in prayer. Thank God for couples in the ministry of the Gospel.

WEEK THREE: YOU, THE MISSIONARY (1 Corinthians 14)

- 🌐 Read the Gem together.
- 🌐 Go over the questions and answers for Week Three, p. 21 together.
- 🌐 Do you consider yourself a missionary?
- 🌐 What is the definition of a missionary? (*A member of a religious group who works to convert those who do not share the missionary’s faith. Many denominations have missionaries. Buddhism was the first “religion” to launch a large scale missionary effort in the history of the world’s religions in the 3rd c. BCE (before the Christian era).*)
- 🌐 What is the goal of Christian missionaries? (*To tell others about the saving power of Christ and to win as many as they can for Him.*)
- 🌐 Read Acts 1:8. Whom was Jesus speaking to in this passage? (*His disciples*)
- 🌐 Are we disciples of Jesus? If so, what are we to do? (*Witness for Christ.*)
- 🌐 How can you be a missionary when you are a housewife a teacher, a secretary, a nurse, a student, or whatever else you are?
- 🌐 Do you enjoy witnessing for Christ?
- 🌐 How can you be a better missionary?
- 🌐 Write Matthew 28:18-20 in your journal.
- 🌐 Close in prayer and ask God to give you a missionary heart and the strength to be a witness for Him everyday no matter where you are.



WEEK FOUR: YOU, THE MISSIONARY'S HELPER *(Philippians 4:10-19)*

- 🌐 Read or say the GEM together.
- 🌐 Go over all the questions and answers for Week Four, p. 22.
- 🌐 Do you personally know any missionaries?
- 🌐 Are they active on the field, on stateside assignment, former missionaries or retired missionaries?
- 🌐 Are missionaries any different from you?
- 🌐 What makes them special in our eyes? *(They are willing to leave their comfort zones, families, homes, and friends to obey God's call.)*
- 🌐 What is a requirement for any missionary? *(Faithfulness—1 Corinthians 4:17; Useful in the ministry—2 Timothy 4:11)*
- 🌐 The word “succourer” is used in the GEM for this month. What does the word mean? *(The dictionary defines succour as, "to come to the assistance of one in need or distress; to help.")*
- 🌐 What do you do to help missionaries? What could you do? *(Support with offerings, gifts, letters, emails, phone calls and prayers.)*
- 🌐 Do you support the WNAC Missionary Provision Closet?
- 🌐 Has any missionary ever spent time in your home or have you ever invited a missionary over (or out) for a meal?
- 🌐 What do missionaries talk about? *(The ones I've been acquainted with always talk about the people and their work. It's on their mind and hearts because they have such a concern for what they do.)*
- 🌐 Do you feel you could go to another state or country as a missionary or helper?
- 🌐 Have you ever been on a mission trip of any kind? Share a little about it.
- 🌐 Do you feel God might be calling you to a special field of service?
- 🌐 Make an entry in your journal describing how you could be a missionary's helper.
- 🌐 Close in prayer and thank God for missionaries.

IN CLOSING...

Free Will Baptists have some of the most dedicated and courageous missionaries anywhere. They leave behind jobs, homes, churches, families, friends and familiar culture to answer God's call to spread the Gospel around the world. They carry out the Great Commission, going to “Jerusalem...all Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” to reach the lost. It is a noble calling, one they accept with humbleness and willingness. God uses these dedicated people in mighty ways planting churches, serving people, establishing relationships, teaching and showing others the way to eternal life. I can't imagine another occupation that requires more time, diligence and surrender to God's will. Pray for our missionaries who serve frontline on the spiritual battlefield.