

FACILITATOR'S GUIDE

KNOW HIS INHERITANCE: SOMETHING BORROWED



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GOAL: To know the riches of His inheritance, independent of borrowed beliefs or traditions.

GUIDANCE: Matthew 25:1-13

GEM: ““For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body” (EPHESIANS 5:23).

“That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind” (EPHESIANS 4:22-23).

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

Traditions are fun and make life memorable. But I honestly can not remember what I borrowed to use in my wedding. Maybe it was a handkerchief of my grandmother’s or my mother’s necklace. It’s just been too many years ago to try to pull it from the recesses of my mind. Evidently it didn’t make a lasting impression on me.

Many brides follow the tradition of “something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue.” It doesn’t matter, because that is not what will guarantee a happy marriage. In fact, there are no guarantees for that. But if both the bride and the groom have a personal relationship with Christ, their marriage is more likely to succeed.



Borrowing anything is just not a task I enjoy doing. I would rather use my own things or do without. However, I have had to borrow an item such as an egg, cup of sugar, flour or something similar from a neighbor. Doing that has enabled me to complete a meal without going to the store. Usually this type of borrowing is not necessarily returned but may be replaced later.

When we think of our salvation, we certainly do not want to borrow someone else's beliefs. We must meet and accept Christ for ourselves. Nothing else will be sufficient in the day our Lord return. He will come to claim His own. Study this month and really seek the riches His Word holds for you.

WEEK ONE: RECIPES

- 📖 Write both GEMS on 3x5 cards for review this month. Work on memorizing one or both of them. (1) *"For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body"* (EPHESIANS 5:23). (2) *"That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind"* (EPHESIANS 4:22-23).
- 📖 Go over questions and answers for Week One, p. 13 together.
- 📖 How do you feel about the answer for the first question? Look at it again. The Proverbs 31 woman had to purchase the food (*buy groceries*), rise early (*before 7 a.m. or earlier*), prepare the food (*take the feathers off the chickens, pound the grain into flour, etc.*), cook it (*probably over an open fire*), feed her family (*off who knows what, certainly not china*), and then feed her servants (*Why didn't they feed her?*). Whew! I'm tired just thinking about it. Yet, she did all this without complaint over and over again.
- 📖 Do you even remotely resemble that woman, or do you have the pizza delivery guy on speed dial? (*In this day and age, our food preparation is likely fast food or sit down restaurant style.*)
- 📖 Do you have family meals together, or did you when you were growing up? Do you think it is important for families to eat as a unit?
- 📖 Do you have recipes that have been handed down to you from family members or friends? (*One of my favorites is my late grandmother's chocolate pie recipe. If you want it, just send me an email: michaelcarolyn1@gmail.com.*)
- 📖 Is it important to pass down recipes, traditions, memories, and family values? (*As long as the traditions are not against God - Mark 7:8-9.*)
- 📖 Do you ever feel like your life is a "recipe for disaster"?
- 📖 What makes it seem like that?
- 📖 How can you turn your life into deliciousness? (*By glorifying and giving Jesus honor—Psalm 29:2; Psalm 34:1-3; Isaiah 25:1.*)
- 📖 What is God's recipe for life? (*Psalm 91:15-16; Acts 16:31; Romans 5:10; Ephesians 2:8*)
- 📖 Make a list in a notebook or journal of some favorite recipes you want to pass down to someone.
- 📖 Close in prayer and thank God for His recipe or plan for life.

WEEK TWO: RELATIONSHIPS

- 📖 Say both GEMS as a group.
- 📖 Go over all the questions and answers for Week Two, p. 14.
- 📖 What type of relationship do you share with your family? Your in-laws (if married)?
- 📖 If that relationship is poor, how can you improve it? Are you willing to improve?
- 📖 Will changing your attitude bind up some wounds?



- 📖 As a wife, how is your relationship with your husband? Do you get mad and stay mad? (*Hindered prayer between husbands and wives was mentioned in the lesson, p. 14, 3rd paragraph from top of the page.*)
- 📖 What else can be causes to hinder our prayers? (*Instability—James 1:6-7; Secret sin—Psalm 66:18; Stubbornness—Zechariah 7:13; Self-indulgence—James 4:3; Indifference—Proverbs 1:24-25,28*)
- 📖 Have you ever borrowed anything from your neighbors or friends? (*lawn mower, clippers, milk, sugar, newspaper, detergent, etc.*)
- 📖 Do you always return or replace what you borrow?
- 📖 Should we do our best to lend to others when they ask us? (*Matthew 5:42*)
- 📖 Do you see how you could become a servant to the person from who you borrow? (*Proverbs 22:7—when you continually borrow and never return or help out in any way*)
- 📖 How is your relationship with your church family? Do you ever take advantage of them because they are quick to offer help or things you might need? Or do you appreciate the help and try to reciprocate?
- 📖 Make an entry in your journal detailing any relationships you need to improve and your plan for going about this.
- 📖 Close in prayer. Thank God for the people in your life and ask that God keep your relationships in good standing.

WEEK THREE: RESOURCEFULNESS

- 📖 Read the GEMS together.
- 📖 Go over the questions and answers for Week Three, p, 15 together.
- 📖 Do you consider yourself resourceful? If so, in what way? (*This is not bragging, it's just answering the question.*)
- 📖 Name some things your parents or grandparents did that you either can't or don't do? (*milk cows, quilt, plow gardens with animals, grind meat, churn butter, wash by hand*)
- 📖 What are some natural resources God has given us? (*oceans, trees, plants, animals, minerals, oil*)
- 📖 When we wisely use the resources God has provided for us what happens? (*We prosper—Genesis 39:3; 2I Chronicles 31:21; Psalm 1:3.*)
- 📖 Have you ever watched children at play, using their imagination? (*It's amazing what they can come up with sometimes.*)
- 📖 Who gave us the ability to use our minds in varied resourceful ways? (*God did.*)
- 📖 Does your church have a Vacation Bible School?
- 📖 If you have worked in VBS for some years, have the resources today changed very much from what they were 10, 20 or even more years ago?
- 📖 If you answered yes, name some changes you've noticed. (*Technology, tapes, videos, sound effects, stories with a week's theme—not different stories for each day, costumes, more advanced crafts...remember the popsicle stick picture frames?...loved them!). You may think of even more ways VBS has changed.*)
- 📖 With time all things change—except the Word of God. This remains the same forever. (*Isaiah 40:8; Matthew 24:35; Psalm 119:89*)
- 📖 Close with a prayer of praise for all the resources God has provided for our benefit.



WEEK FOUR: RESPONSIBILITIES

- 📖 if anyone memorized the GEMS, provide time to say them. If not, read both of them as a group.
- 📖 Go over all the questions and answers for Week Four, p. 16.
- 📖 Do you believe that your husband is the head of you? (*I've heard it said that a husband may be the head, but the wife is the neck that turns the head!*)
- 📖 Do any of us ever like the submitting part of the Bible? It may not even be to a husband, but to anyone. We tend to struggle against anyone really telling us what to do, don't we?
- 📖 Did you borrow anything for your wedding?
- 📖 If you own something, is it more likely you will remember that item? It's the same with our faith. You will nurture, feed, and cherish your relationship to Christ if it's completely yours.
- 📖 Are you responsible to God for anyone except yourself? (*Romans 14:12; Matthew 12:36; Deuteronomy 24:16; Jeremiah 31:30*)
- 📖 How does Peter say we should live? (*1 Peter 4:7*)
- 📖 We are responsible to be witnesses and a light to lost souls. (*Acts 1:8; Matthew 5:14; Philipians 2:15*)
- 📖 Are you fulfilling your responsibility as a witness and a light?
- 📖 Do you want to be invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb? (*Revelation 19-7-9*)
- 📖 Have you accepted the invitation? (*Revelation 22:17*)
- 📖 2 Corinthians 11:2 tells us the church is betrothed as the intended bride of her husband, Jesus. Fill in the blanks, "The bride of (1)_____ is a group of people who (2)_____ God, His (3)_____, and His (4)_____." (1. Christ; 2. Love; 3. Ways; and 4. Word)
- 📖 Does everyone who claims to be a Christian obey the Word?
- 📖 What are the characteristics of the bridal church in Ephesians 5:25-27? (*Holy, cleansed or washed by the Word of God, a radiant or glorious church, without stain or wrinkle, without blemish, and blameless*)
- 📖 Is it important to watch for the bridegroom? (*Revelation 3:2-3—This is emphasizing questions 3 and 4 from Week One, p. 13.*)
- 📖 Make an entry in your journal to describe what the heavenly wedding might be like.
- 📖 Close with praise and thanksgiving for the coming marriage of the Lamb.

IN CLOSING...

Whether you are a newlywed or have been married for 50 years, a good foundation based on Jesus Christ is necessary for true success in your marriage. Don't borrow trouble by going it alone. Look to Jesus for guidance and wisdom. Trust Him for every aspect of your life. At the end of your life, you want to look back and know you did everything possible to be a positive influence in the lives of others. Only by having your own personal relationship with Jesus can you do that. We will not be held accountable for what others do or how they live, but for the way we walk in front of them. Read, study, and prepare for the most glorious day of your life, the day when the bridegroom is coming to gather us to Himself.