



FACILITATOR'S GUIDE

KNOW HIS CALLING IN THE HOME

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

GUIDANCE: 1 Samuel 3; Proverbs 31:10-31; Luke 10:38-42; Ephesians 5.

GEM: "Every wise woman buildeth her house: but the foolish plucketh it down with her hands" (PROVERBS 14:1).

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

I can remember singing "Home on the Range" as a child. The lyrics were fun and upbeat. There may be something to the line that says, "where seldom is heard a discouraging word, and the skies are not cloudy or gray." It would be wonderful if all households were like that. Unfortunately, homes today are full of tension, conflict, stress and strain. People are stretched to their limit because of financial problems, lack of jobs, marital troubles, wayward or difficult children—and these are just the Christian homes. I'm sure it's even worse for homes of those not claiming to be Christian.

How can we have peaceful, happy productive homes in the modern world we live in? The answer is in God's Word. We have to be women who are listening and obeying God in every facet of our lives. Women who are committed to the God of the universe, the God of Creation, the God of peace, and the God of provision. He is the only one who will enable us to survive the chaos of our daily lives. You may lead a very tranquil life right now but just wait. At some point in time,



trouble will arrive to disrupt the peaceful existence. It may come in the form of a death, accident, sickness, divorce or age, but the sovereign God who can handle any problem or heartache will be there to give you assurance. He'll guide you through anything that comes your way.

“Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct thy paths” (Proverbs 3:6). The call is the same for everyone. Will you answer it? Will you seek His will and obey it? Life may or may not be easy for you right now, but knowing God is in control and following Him will assure you of help here on earth and a final home in Heaven. I want to be wise in the decisions I make regarding my home. How about you? While you're doing the study this month, consider writing out some goals for your life. Include ones that will enable you to have a home worthy of God's calling, a home where there is comfort, peace, love, acceptance, accountability and knowledge that the Lord dwells there. It won't be perfect, but it can be pleasing to God.

WEEK ONE: THE CALL (*1 Samuel 3*)

Write the Gem (Memory Verse) on a 3 x 5 card for help in memorizing it this month. *“Every wise woman buildeth her house: but the foolish plucketh it down with her hands” (Proverbs 14:1).*

Go over the questions and answers for Week One, pp. 12-13 together.

Who was Samuel's mother? (*Hannah, wife of Elkanah—1 Samuel 1:8.*)

What were some of her characteristics? (*Prayerfulness-1 Samuel 1:10; Self-denial-1 Samuel 1:22; Thankfulness-1 Samuel 2:1-2; Industry and maternal love-1 Samuel 2:19.*)

What are some of your characteristics? (*Don't be shy or modest; others need to know how you see yourself or areas where they might improve.*)

Why was Samuel in the temple to begin with? (*Hannah presented him to Eli, the Priest—1 Samuel 1:26.*)

Why did she do this? (*She promised a son to the Lord if He would allow her to conceive and have one—1 Samuel 1:11.*)

Does Hannah forget about her son? (*No, she provides a winter coat for him each year. Remember 1 Samuel 2:19?*)

What did Samuel grow up to become? (*A prophet of the Lord—1 Samuel 3:19-20.*)

What important event is Samuel remembered for in his adult life? (*Anointing David—1 Samuel 16:11-13.*)

Have you given/dedicated your children to the Lord?

Do they always obey?

What promise can we cling to? (*Proverbs 22:6.*)

What has God called you to do?

Are you obeying His call?

Reflect on the questions in the “Talk About It” section on page 12.

Close in prayer by thanking God for His call of salvation.

WEEK TWO: THE FOUNDATION (*Proverbs 31*)

Go over the memory verse together and discuss how it is a Gem to be treasured.

What does this verse say to you?

Discuss the questions and answers for Week Two, pp. 14-15.

Do you consider yourself a Proverbs 31 woman?



🏠 Would you like to become one?

🏠 Do you set the tone for the atmosphere in your home? (*Even in the 21st century, it's the woman who usually manages the things that go on in the home. She can cause things to explode, bubbles to burst, or wrinkles to be ironed out.*)

🏠 Why should there be a good foundation for any home? (*To make our homes safe and secure—Luke 6:47-49; Matthew 7:24-25.*)

🏠 Christ makes it very clear that our foundation needs to be built on the Rock which is Him. Read I Corinthians 3:10-11; Matthew 16:18; and I Corinthians 10:4.

🏠 Do you like knowing that God can establish your life on a rock? (*Psalm 40:2; Psalm 27:5.*)

🏠 Are you content with your life? (*Philippians 4:11; Hebrews 13:5; 1 Timothy 6:6,8.*)

🏠 How can you learn to be content? (*Acceptance and gratitude. Reread what Mrs. Reid wrote on p.14, next to the last paragraph.*)

🏠 When will our homes be perfect? (*When we receive our heavenly home—John 14:2.*)

🏠 Is your home a special place by accident? (*No, it takes lots of planning and commitment to make it special—Psalm 37:5.*)

🏠 Pray the Serenity Prayer. (*Two versions are included: the familiar short version or the full prayer below in italics.*)

“God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.”

*God, grant me the serenity
To accept the things I cannot change,
The courage to change the things I can,
And the wisdom to know the difference.
Living one day at a time,
Enjoying one moment at a time;
Accepting hardship as a pathway to peace;
Taking, as Jesus did,
This sinful world as it is,
Not as I would have it;
Trusting that You will make all things right
If I surrender to Your will;
So that I may be reasonably happy in this life,
And supremely happy with You
Forever in the next.
AMEN.*

—Reinhold Niebuhr

WEEK THREE: THE FOCUS (*Luke 10:38-42*)

🏠 Say the memory verse together a few times.

🏠 What do you consider the focus of your home and your daily life?

🏠 Go over the questions and answers for Week Three, pp. 15-16.

🏠 Are your priorities and values in the right order?

🏠 Do you obey God and follow His commands? (*Deuteronomy 26:16; Matthew 7:21; Revelation 22:14; John 15:10.*)

🏠 Do you have the gift of hospitality? (*Romans 12:13; 1 Peter 4:9; Titus 1:8.*)



- 🏠 How do you feel when someone visits and compliments you on a well-kept house and a wonderful meal? Do guests feel comfortable in your home?
- 🏠 Read where Christ was the guest. (*Home of Simon, the Leper—Mark 14:3; Home of a Pharisee—Luke 7:36; Home of Matthew—Matthew 9:9-10; Home of Zacchaeus—Luke 19:5-7; and at Cana of Galilee—John 2:1-2.*)
- 🏠 What was Jesus' life goal and focus? (*To seek and to save that which was lost—Luke 19:10.*)
- 🏠 Do you need to focus on witnessing more?
- 🏠 Write in your journal a prayer for your family. Include your fears, hopes, and plans for them asking God to bless and protect every area of their lives.
- 🏠 Close in prayer. Thank God for your home, your family, and your friends.

WEEK FOUR: THE INFLUENCE (*Ephesians 5*)

- 🏠 Have a volunteer say the memory verse Gem.
- 🏠 Go over the questions and answers for Week Four, p. 17.
- 🏠 What has been the main influence—making you what you are today?
- 🏠 Ephesians isn't the only book that tells us to submit to our husbands. Does anyone know another book that instructs us to do this? (*Colossians in Colossians 3:18.*)
- 🏠 Go on to verses 19 and 21 of the same chapter (*Colossians 3*). Does your husband have an obligation, also? (*Yes: (1) To love you, and (2) To treat the children right.*)
- 🏠 What about the children? What are they to do? (*Colossians 3:20.*)
- 🏠 Does the Bible give us instructions for raising our children? (*Deuteronomy 6:5-9.*)
- 🏠 Even in Christian homes, can we control how our children turn out?
- 🏠 How do we handle the heartaches that come our way? (*By trusting in His promises and His grace—Romans 8:28; 2 Corinthians 12:9.*)
- 🏠 Is your home "Satan Proof"? (*1 Peter 5:8.*)
- 🏠 How can you counter Satan's attacks on your family and home? (*Reading the Word, prayer, open communication among family members and help from your church family.*)
- 🏠 Is this an easy task to accomplish? (*Definitely not, but keep your eyes on God.*) Read *2 Chronicles 20:12; Daniel 3:17; Isaiah 26:3; Psalm 37:5.*)
- 🏠 Close in a prayer of dedication for your home and family to accept God's call.

IN CLOSING...

God expects a lot from us and our homes. Does this encourage or discourage you? If we trust Him for guidance and strength, then we can have the type home that is a blessing to everyone who knows us. It's said that our homes should be a part of Heaven on earth, our sanctuary from the outside world of stress, crime and conflict. We must keep on keeping on, holding on to our faith and trusting God's Word. Never ever give up on your family or home. Now, sit back, relax and enjoy what God has given you.