

PENTECOSTAL LIFE

SMALL GROUP Facilitator's Guide



THE POWER OF PURPLE

MAY 2018

PENTECOSTALLIFE.COM

SMALL GROUP

Facilitator's Guide

Welcome to *Pentecostal Life's* small group study, *Biblical Women of Influence*. Thank you for providing leadership for this four-session study. Your enthusiasm for the study will inspire your group members to experience abundant life with Jesus Christ.



Biblical Women of Influence—Small Group Overview

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Session:	Session Name / <i>Pentecostal Life</i> article:
Session One	The Power of Purple <i>Read "The Great Transfer"</i>
Session Two	The Great Transfer <i>Read "Women in Leadership"</i>
Session Three	Women in Leadership <i>Read "Seasons of Failure and Success"</i>
Session Four	<i>Read "Finding Balance between Hospitality and Worship"</i>

HOW TO REACH US

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OUR VISION

The *Pentecostal Life* in every Pentecostal home

OUR MISSION

To publish a Pentecostal magazine that strengthens the hands of Pentecostal pastors, encourages and challenges Pentecostal believers, and reaches beyond the doors of Pentecostal churches

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Launching the Study

This study focuses on some of the influential women of the Bible. It uses the four ENGAGE articles in the May 2018 issue of the *Pentecostal Life*. Every member of your group should have a copy of the magazine. As a leader, you will need the magazine and the downloadables from pentecostallife.com.

Before the Study

- Pray that you and the members of the group will be ready to receive what God wants to reveal to them through this study.
- Make sure your group size is small enough to encourage interaction by all participants; if it is too large, consider breaking up into several study groups.
- Set up a circular area where all participants have a seat that allows them to see each other.
- Place an extra chair in the circle to remind the group of the evangelistic nature of the study group. The group members can be encouraged to bring visitors and to pray for their salvation.
- As the facilitator, you should read the four ENGAGE articles to become familiar with the scope of the study.
- Each week, read the discussion questions and think through the answers you anticipate will be given. Prepare to lead the conversation and make notes on the direction you will take.
- Make certain each member of the study group purchases or has access to the May 2018 issue of the *Pentecostal Life* magazine. *Pentecostal Life* is available in single or bundle subscriptions at pentecostallife.com.
- Each week, instruct your study group members to read the appropriate ENGAGE article for the following week's discussion.
- Make a copy of the Study Guides for each student. They, as well as this Facilitator's Guide, are available as a download at Pentecostallife.com in both Word document and PDF formats.

During the Study

- **Focus.** It is easy for small group discussions to veer away from the goal of the study. Gently encourage group members back to the question at hand if this happens.
- **Include.** Ask specific questions of those who are more hesitant to participate to encourage them to join the discussion.

SESSION ONE

The Power of Purple

Objective

To provide a model for evangelism both locally and world-wide

Opening

1. How do you define the word *serendipitous*?
2. Have you experienced any serendipitous events in your life?

Key Scriptures

Acts 16:14–15, 40; Philippians 4:3

“A continent awaited the arrival of Paul, but his success hinged on the hospitality of Lydia and the power of purple.”

SESSION ONE (CONT.)

The Power of Purple

Discuss the following questions:

1. What is your "purple"?
2. Have you been rebuffed for your unique outreach methods?
3. What is the proper response to criticism and fractured relationships when you thought you were doing the right thing?
4. What do you do when you are rejected for "baptizing the Gentiles"?
5. Name a serendipitous event in your life when you "went to the river to pray" and connected with someone sent from God.
6. Identify your "river" or venue where you may find someone "whose heart God has opened."
7. What are the current trends in society that could provide unusual opportunities to reach out to hearts that God has opened?
8. Discuss the gift of hospitality and how it could facilitate sharing the truth and establishing a church in your Thyatira.
9. How can your business, the power of your purple, provide support to a Paul of today?
10. Read the Book of Philippians aloud and list the lessons learned from Paul's letter.

Assignment

Read "The Great Transfer" before next session.

SESSION TWO (CONT.)

The Great Transfer

Discuss the following questions:

1. Who were the people in Timothy's life that had the greatest influence upon his ministry?
2. What message does the story of Timothy send to single mothers?
3. According to II Timothy 1:5, what spiritual gift was specified as being passed down from generation to generation?
4. What does it mean to have "unfeigned faith"?
5. In what simple, everyday way is unfeigned faith transferred or passed down into the lives of children?
6. How is lifestyle related to unfeigned faith?
7. How is your unfeigned faith in God exposed in your everyday life?

Assignment

Read “Women in Leadership” before the next session.

[illegible]



SESSION THREE

Women in Leadership

Objective

To discover that Apostolic men and women do not have to bury their talents but can find their full potential in ministry

Opening

1. Do you know a woman who is called to ministry?
2. Has that woman influenced you in any way? If so, how?

Key Scriptures

Acts 18:26; Romans 16:3–5;
I Corinthians 16:19; I Timothy 2:11–12;
II Timothy 4:19

“What a privilege to be part of a movement in a time when men and women do not have to bury their talents but can find their full potential in ministry.”

SESSION THREE (CONT.)

Women in Leadership

Discuss the following questions:

1. Who do you know who is or was a Priscilla?
2. What are some obstacles that might keep a woman from serving the Lord?
3. If the Lord called your daughter to preach or lead a church, how would you help her get started?
4. How does the Lord use women's natural motherly skills in the ministry? (See I Thessalonians 2:7 and I Timothy 5:2.)
5. Priscilla was a married woman. Can married women do more for the Lord than single women? Answer from I Corinthians 7:34–35.
6. Who were some other significant women leaders in Scripture? (If you need help, see Judges 4:4–5; II Kings 22:14–18; Acts 16:15, 40; Romans 16:1; I Corinthians 1:11.)
7. Who are some significant female leaders in the kingdom of God today?
8. What are some of the challenges both a husband and wife in ministry might face?
9. How can the church help encourage a Priscilla?
10. Who is a woman called to ministry that you can encourage today?

Assignment

Read "Finding Balance between Hospitality and Worship," before the next session.



SESSION FOUR

Finding Balance between Hospitality and Worship

Objective

To identify the boundaries of hospitality and worship

Opening

1. What are some of your favorite experiences of hospitality?
2. Do you find the serving involved in hospitality tedious or enjoyable? Or both?

Key Scriptures

Matthew 22:36–40; Luke 10:38–42;
Romans 12:13; I Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:8;
I Peter 4:9

**“Serving can be delegated;
worshiping cannot.”**

SESSION FOUR (CONT.)

Finding Balance between Hospitality and Worship

Discuss the following questions:

1. Have you ever been stressed or overwhelmed from serving? Explain.
2. Was your stress the result of a personal boundary violation such as being tired or hungry? Explain.
3. Did you forget the purpose of biblical hospitality? Explain.
4. Do you expect other people to return your hospitality?
5. Are you angry or disappointed when others don't?
6. Do you expect others to help when you serve?
7. How can remembering the biblical purpose of hospitality change how you feel about being hospitable?
8. How can talking with Jesus realign your priorities?
9. How can hospitality be an act of worship?
10. Why do you believe the Bible emphasizes being hospitable?

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