

CLC Host's Personal Meeting Room

Overview

This meeting was a women's fellowship session focused on discussing the concept of "Kingdom Woman" based on a video presentation by Tony Evans. The session began with prayer requests and updates from group members, followed by watching a video about the value and purpose of women in God's kingdom. After the video, participants engaged in a discussion about their reflections on the content and completed an exercise identifying their spiritual gifts and personal styles.

Key Concepts or Theories:

- Kingdom Woman: Defined as a female who consistently places herself under the rule of God in her life
- Women as essential collaborators: The Hebrew term for "helper" (Ezer Connegdo) indicates women are strength-bringing counterparts, not merely assistants
- Identity and value: A woman's value is inherent and unchangeable, like a \$100 bill that remains valuable regardless of condition
- Relationship vs. religion: The importance of having a personal relationship with God ("Lord God") rather than just religious knowledge ("God")

Important Questions Raised:

- How do women maintain their God-given value in a society that often devalues them?
- How can single women embrace their identity as being "married to Christ" first?
- How do our personal styles and spiritual gifts reflect our unique value in God's kingdom?
- How can women recognize and utilize their spiritual gifts to serve in God's kingdom?

Key Takeaways and Summary of Learning Objectives

- Women are essential, not accessory, to God's plan and have equal value in His kingdom
- A woman's value is inherent and unchangeable, established by God regardless of circumstances

- The enemy attempts to separate women from their relationship with God by focusing on religion rather than relationship
- Women should recognize their spiritual gifts and use them to serve in God's kingdom
- Understanding one's true identity in Christ prevents making decisions based on false perceptions

Topic 1: The Value of Women in God's Kingdom

Tony Evans presented a powerful message about women's value in God's kingdom, emphasizing that when God created humans, He created both male and female in His image with equal participation in His dominion plan. Evans explained that God took special care in creating women, "fashioning with intricate detail" compared to how He formed man from dust. He highlighted that women are not accessories but essentials to God's program, and it is "illegal" for women to allow anyone to treat them as less than what the Creator intended. Evans used the analogy of mannequins in store windows to illustrate how God has placed women "on display" to attract others to His kingdom. He emphasized that women are to be "showstoppers" for God's kingdom, consistently positioning themselves under God's rule while embracing their empowered position.

Relevant Q&A

Sis.: The first thing that stood out to me was when Tony Evans mentioned about if you're a single woman, you're not just a single woman, you're married to Christ. I never looked at it that way.

CLC: I think we can get disappointed if our husband is not being as kind or attentive as we think because he is just a mere man, but if you keep in mind that God is ultimately your husband, all our needs are met in the Lord God.

Sister: I plan on taking that into my marriage when the Lord blesses me. It helps me not to idolize marriage, because you remember this is not somebody that's about to be your savior. You have to have your own relationship with Christ.

Topic 2: Understanding Spiritual Gifts

The group discussed various spiritual gifts as outlined in 1 Corinthians 12:4-11, including wisdom, faith, miracles, knowledge, healing, discernment, prophecy, teaching, mercy, exhortation, and service. Each participant reflected on which gifts they believed God had given them. The discussion emphasized that spiritual gifts are distributed by the Holy Spirit according to His will, and every believer has at least one gift to use for building up the body of Christ. Participants recognized that the same gift might manifest differently in different people, as each person is uniquely created. The conversation highlighted how many participants had chosen careers that aligned with their spiritual gifts, particularly in helping professions like nursing, respiratory therapy, and education.

Relevant Q&A

CLC: If Sister Brittany teaches, she doesn't have to teach like somebody else. She doesn't have to be Priscilla Shirer; she has her own way of expressing the gift. Stacia and I both have mercy, but it might still look different in us.

Keniesha: I say faith because I bring my faith wherever I go. I take my faith with me in my work as a respiratory therapist. I have patients who come in who are sick, and parents who see their children being sick. Although I know in a lot of places you can lose your job talking about God, I don't let that stop me from talking about God.

Sister: I've noticed that the Lord has given me a gift of helping people have a deeper understanding. Teaching... I mean, He even called me to teach at the school system. I was working in healthcare for years. I just knew I was going to be a nurse, but God has been showing me that I have a gift of teaching.

Topic 3: Personal Style as a Reflection of Identity

The group engaged in an exercise comparing their personal fashion styles to department stores as a metaphor for how they present themselves to the world. This led to deeper discussions about how their outward presentation reflects their inner values and identity. Participants chose stores ranging from Land's End and L.L. Bean (representing classic, quality, understated styles) to Goodwill and consignment shops (representing uniqueness, value, and timelessness). The conversation revealed how each woman's style choices reflected aspects of their personality and values, such as practicality, uniqueness, versatility, or quality. This exercise helped illustrate how each woman brings unique value to the group and to God's kingdom.

Relevant Q&A

CLC: I'm a little plain, a little understated. It might make people want to know more about me. If you really know me, that's how my whole life is. I don't know how to decorate my house, I don't really know how to style my hair. That's just who I am. You're gonna have to really get to know me.

Sister: I like finding timeless pieces, things that you won't find anywhere else. I guess that kind of speaks for my personality too, just rare material that you're not gonna find at your regular store. It's not even Marshall's; you're not gonna find two of them.

Stacia: I am somebody who is very drawn to and seeks to make things beautiful. David's Bridal is like shiny things, feminine things. I'm not always like that, but I am somebody who wants to make things beautiful. If you meet me, I'm gonna smile at you. I feel like I have a pleasant disposition.

Actionable Next Steps / Assignments

- Purchase and read the "Kingdom Woman" book by Tony Evans and Crystal Evans Hurst for future discussions
- Consider hosting a women's fellowship meeting during summer months (June, July, August) at home or in a park
- Complete a spiritual gifts inventory (available online or in print form from the group leader)
- Review the scripture sheet about "who we are in Christ" (available from the group leader)
- Prepare for potential virtual church service due to forecasted snowstorm

Supplemental Resources and Readings

- "Kingdom Woman" book by Tony Evans and Crystal Evans Hurst
- YouTube video link of Tony Evans' presentation on Kingdom Woman:
<https://youtu.be/ONmabPxoiwQ>
- Prayer book resource:
https://www.christianword.org/new/prayer_book/version12/prayerBook.pdf
- Spiritual gifts inventory (available from the group leader)
- Scripture sheet about "who we are in Christ" (available from the group leader)