

WMU – 2011 COVERING MISSISSIPPI IN PRAYER

- TITLE:** Preparing to Tell The Story
- SCRIPTURE:** II Timothy 4:2a
"Be ready to spread the word....."
- AUDIENCE:** All Women
- PURPOSE:** To help women prepare to share the gospel of Jesus Christ by participating in a personal prayer retreat.
- CONTENT:** Follow the outlined plan privately or in a small group.
1. Begin by thanking God for meeting with you today. Tell God that you love Him and want to be like him. Read a psalm aloud to the Lord.
 2. Praise is saying the good truths about God. Read Psalm 86:12. Read other psalms and underline any verses about praise. Write two or more verses about praise in a journal. Make a prayer to God using the verse on praise. Complete this sentence: *I will praise You, God, because _____.*
 3. Sing a song of praise to God. How do you feel when a child wants to sing a song for you? How does God feel when you sing to Him?
 4. Tell God why you are thankful. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:18. Memorize and meditate on this verse. Write two or more verses from Psalms that talk about thanksgiving in your journal. Complete this sentence: *I thank You, God, because you have done _____.*
 5. Read Isaiah 6:1-8. Kneel down and express to God why He is worthy of worship. Tell God why you worship and love Him
 6. Confess your sins and your unworthiness to God. Read 1 John 1:8-10, 2 Chronicles 7:14, Jeremiah 10:23-24, Jeremiah 14:7, and Psalm 79:9. Answer these questions: Why should you confess sin? Why should God forgive you? What does sin do to you? Why does God require your confession? Have you done wrong to anyone? In your prayer journal write two or more verses about confession. Memorize 1 John 1:9.
 7. Read 1 Timothy 2:1-4. Who should you pray for? Using your prayer journal, pray for those you have listed. Pray the model prayer from Matthew 6:9-13 aloud. What does Jesus pray for in verses 9-12? How does he close the prayer? Pray now for two lost

people? Pray 1 Thessalonians 5:22-23 for fellow Christians.

8. Read, memorize, and meditate on Philippians 4:6. Write the verse in your own words. Now read Colossians 1:9-12. Pray this pray for yourself. What does this pray ask from God? Make a list of what you want God to do for you. Strike out any request that does not bring glory to God.
9. Now commit yourself to God. Write down anything God has said to you or that you have learned during your prayertime. Close by thanking God for speaking to you. Meditate on the privilege you have just had. Write your own psalm expressing how God has touched your life today. Share with someone what you have learned and what this time has meant to you.

APPLICATION: Think about the following questions as you refelect on the time you have spent in this personal retreat.

- ❖ How would you describe your prayer life today?
- ❖ Why is prayer important to sharing your faith?
- ❖ What is your greatest fear in sharing your faith?
- ❖ What are three things you can do to enhance your prayer life?

Philemon 4-6: *"I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers, because I hear I that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ."*

RESOURCES: "The Praying Life" by Jennifer Kennedy Dean
"Prayer" by Richard J. Foster
"Prayer 101" by Elaine Helms
"Follow Me" by Randy Sprinkle
"The Power of a Praying Woman" by Stormie Omartian
"Lord, Teach Me to Pray" from LifeWay