如何享受圣经故事系列

在你手中的，是一套到目前为止出版发行过的，最为非凡的圣经学习材料之一。这套系列丛书几年前第一次用英语出版发行，在英语世界当中已经有数千人使用过。

现在，在原始的出版者的允许下，这套丛书被翻译成了许多种语言，出版成为当代丛书集合。

这套丛书的价值所在是，其中的每个圣经故事都会引导读者或者小组，去帮助他们发现圣经历史当中深藏的真理。通过深刻的多选问题，把读者带入到了故事当中，让他们自己去发现意义和内涵，并且把他们所发现的带入到自己的现实生活当中。

这套丛书，最好是让那些可以鼓励小组成员尽量讨论和思考的人来“教授”。教授的老师最好可以像一位领导者，带领大家通过圣经故事找到正确的方法。当小组成员认为宝贵的真理被忽视的时候，老师需要帮助小组成员去发现，最先发现的一定是本小组的成员。这种做法可以极大的吸引到小组其他的成员。这种做法也会缓解传统教学模式下老师的压力，可以更详细的掌握经文中的真理，并且以一种更能让小组成员感兴趣并教授他们的方式来学习。

几乎所有使用过的老师都反映，他们的班级或者小组，都比以前的传统教学模式下，表现出了更为浓厚的兴趣。

同样，那些经常阅读学习这套小册子的人，也发现这种探寻学习方式非常的有趣也很有意义。无论是天主教徒还是新教徒，读者会被引入到他们手里的圣经中每个故事的场景当中，引导着他们去体会每个故事当中所蕴含的灵知真理。

*“E v e r y C ommunit y on Ear th D eser v es a New Testament Chur ch”*



# 女性面临的挑战

来自“圣经故事”系列

全民读经活动

English 10-14



A Gateway to World Missions

目录

# 女性面临的挑战

每个人在生命当中都会面对挑战。事实上，每个人在生命当中都会面对挑战。事实上，生活主要就是面对不断的挑战而做出的反应。挑战不仅是解决问题，还要让每个人在所处的生活环境当中取得个人进步。

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **故事 1** | 神的应许从不迟到 | 1 |
| **故事2** | 忠心无疑的妇人 | 3 |
| **故事3** | 耶稣爱每个人 | 5 |
| **故事4** | 凡事都有定时 | 7 |
| **故事5** | 耶稣能医治！ | 9 |
| **故事6** | 建立在岩石上 | 11 |

女性除了人类都要面对的挑战之外，还要面对许多性别带来的独特挑战。女性面对挑战做出的明智和信实的反应的能力，很大程度上决定了她生命中将获得的成功。在之后你们的小组的六次聚会当中，每个小组成员都要回想她所面临的挑战，并且帮助和鼓励其他成员，面对他们自己特定的挑战。对于正面临挑战的女性，圣经时代女性的真实经历，将作为戏剧性的研究案例。

**National Bible Reading Campaign**

**Church Starts International**

P. O. Box 177 Henrietta, Texas 76365

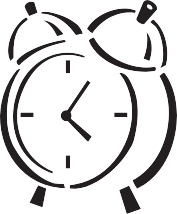
[billdavis@churchstarts.com](mailto:billdavis@churchstarts.com) [www.churchstarts.com](http://www.churchstarts.com/)

Materials Adapted from the Serendipity Bible

© 1998, 1996 by Serendipity House. Used by permission.

© 2006 Ted Lindwall

第一个故事



#### 神的应许从不迟到

**创世纪 18:1-15**

**三位客人**

有时候跟从神的呼召是困难的而且充满了危险。当亚伯拉罕选择跟从神，他的妻子撒拉也怀着极大的信心无怨无悔的陪伴着他。撒拉是个有着极大信心的女性，但这并不代表她没有过动摇。当代的女性需要从她的例子当中鼓起勇气，明白神会很好的使用她们，及时有时她们会动摇。

这个故事发生在创世纪17章中神向亚伯兰显现，并再次跟他确认同他立的约的不久之后，神非常确定他应许亚伯兰同撒莱将生一个儿子，从那时起，他们被赋予了新的名字亚伯拉罕和撒拉。

1. Why did Abraham try so hard to serve the three visitors?

* Eastern culture demanded it.
* He knew they were angels.
* He was a very hospitable person.
* He was looking for something in return.

1. When did Abraham realize the Lord was visiting him?

* immediately
* when the visitors asked about Sarah by name
* when the promise of a son was given
* when he was asked why Sarah was laughing to herself

1. If you were Sarah (childless and 89 years old), how would you have felt about what you heard?
2. How would you describe Sarah’s laughter?

* Situational - You had to be there.
* Suppressed - She was trying to contain herself.
* Sarcastic - “Yeah, and Abraham will run a marathon!”
* Sinful - She displayed her lack of faith.
* Spiritual - She was honest with her feelings

1. What would it do you good to laugh about right now? What keeps you from doing so?
2. When you were a child, who served as an example of faith to you? What are you doing to pattern your life after that person?
3. What is the purpose of your faith?

* to fulfill my dreams
* to make me a stronger Christian
* to glorify God
* to encourage others
* to prepare me for eternity
* I’m really not sure.

1. Sarah seems to have given up on her desire to have a baby. Where in your life have you given up on your dream? If you’re really honest, what seems“too hard for the Lord”?
2. What does this story about Sarah teach you? Where in your life may God be telling you it’s never too late? Where might God be saying,“There’s still something significant I want to do with your life”.
3. What kind of stress does your changing age add to your life? How do you deal with the reality of aging?

Second Bible Event



#### FAITHFUL WOMAN WITHOUT DOUBTS

**Judges 4:1-24**

**DEBORAH LEADS ISRAEL**

Increasingly, women are looked up to for leadership in the modern world. It is a challenge to be able to meet the expectations of others when they look to a woman for leadership. Deborah is an example and a challenge to all women because she won the respect of her nation when women had little standing as leaders. Let us learn from her.

1. God’s response to the Israelites’wickedness was to:

* punish them send an enemy to harass them
* abandon them show them their weakness

1. What made Deborah a leader in a man’s world?

* her ability to predict the future
* her courage
* her military mind
* her strong faith
* the obvious gifts God gave her
* None of the men had her backbone.

1. What was Barak’s problem (v.8)?

* He was chicken.
* He wasn’t sure of the route.
* He wasn’t convinced that this was the right thing to do.
* He wanted a spokesperson for God with him.
* He wanted to lean on Deborah.

4. How do you think the Israelite men felt about the honor of victory going to twowomen? How do you think the Israelite women felt?

1. In this period, Israel went through cycles of turning away from God, suffering from oppression, crying out to the Lord, and being delivered by God through a human agent. When do you most often drift away from the Lord?

* when I get too comfortable
* when other things demand my attention
* when I get tired of being“good”
* when I ignore my“quiet time”
* when the pressure gets too great
* I can’t explain it - it just happens.

1. How does God usually seem to“discipline”you?

* failure
* family crises
* illness
* things falling apart
* guilt
* other:

1. What is the most effective way for you to“cry out to God”?

* “Help!”
* talking to a Christian friend
* confessing my sin
* pouring out my soul in a journal

1. In what way have you experienced God’s deliverance?

* healing
* people’s help
* provision of resources
* spiritual growth through a crisis

1. What quality of Deborah’s would you most like to have (and what would you attempt if you had it)?

* foresight faith
* confidence leadership ability
* boldness inner strength

1. How was Deborah able to be an “assertive servant”? What woman today do you look to as a similar example of that kind of strength? What can you do to be more like her and/ or Deborah?

Third Bible Event



#### JESUS LOVES EVERYBODY

**John 4:7-30**

**JESUS TALKS WITH A SAMARITAN WOMAN**

One of the most influential evangelists in the New Testament was a woman who had one moral failure after another, but whose life was touched by Jesus. At her word, a whole community welcomed Jesus and many received him as Lord. The Samaritan woman shows that a woman does not need to have a flawless background to be powerfully used by God. Instead of avoiding Samaria as Jews often did, Jesus passed through this area that Jews considered inhabited by spiritual and ethnic half-breeds.

1. How would you describe this woman’s response for most of her conversation with Jesus?

* Searching - “Is it possible this is what I’ve been looking for?”
* Avoidance - “I think I’d better try to change the subject.”
* Skeptical - “Who does this guy think he is?!”

1. What most influenced the woman to consider that the man she was talking to was the Messiah?

* what he said about“living water”
* the way he knew so much about her without being told
* his accepting her though she was a loose-living Samaritan woman
* when he claimed, “I who speak to you am He”

1. What was Jesus saying about worshiping God?

* The Jews’worship is better than the Samaritans’worship
* The object of true worship the Messiah comes from the Jews
* Focusing on where to worship misses the point
* True worship is from the heart

1. What was this woman thirsting for?

* intimacy in her relationships
* intimacy with God
* acceptance of who she was
* forgiveness for the life she had led
* meaning and purpose in life
* basic survival in life

1. What are you really thirsting for?
2. What did it take for Jesus and this woman to get past their cultural differences to communicate like this? What can you do to help overcome barriers that exist in your“world”?

7.What have been the most significant changes you have gone through in your spiritual life?

* a conversion experience
* a spiritual crisis
* changes in my beliefs
* different choices than my family
* switching churches/denominations

1. In what ways have the changes in your spiritual life been stressful or unsettling? How have you worked through that?
2. What differences exist between you as a couple?

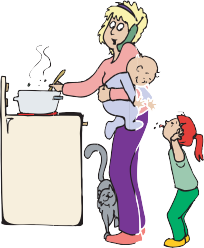
* religious differences
* racial or ethnic differences
* political differences
* differences about handling money
* different ideas about leisure time
* differences in how we see out roles as husband and wife
* other:

1. What helps you get past your differences?

* willingness to listen and learn
* willingness to see past certain controversies between us
* determination to make our marriage work
* the fact we don’t just tolerate our differences we enjoy them!

1. What do you appreciate about this group? How have the members of your group helped you become refreshed by God’s living water?

Fourth Bible Event



#### THERE IS TIME FOR EVERYTHING

**Acts 16:11-15**

**LYDIA’S CONVERSION**

Europe became the bastion of the Christian faith for many centuries. It is significant that the first convert to Christ in

Europe, recorded in the Bible, was a business woman named Lydia. She was significant, not only as being Paul’s first convert in Europe, but because her dedication to the Lord was complete and she led others to follow her faith. All our communities need “Lydias” because women are often the first to turn to Christ and have great influence over others.

The apostle Paul’s missionary travels brought him to Phillipi. Paul’s practice was to first preach at each city’s synagogue, but there were so few Jews in Phillipi that there was no synagogue there. In such cities it was common for the Jews and the Gentiles interested in Judaism (“worshipers of God,”like Lydia in this story) to gather outdoors near running water.

1. Which of the following words best describes your impression of Lydia?

* persuasive  hospitable
* spiritual  impulsive
* trusting  naive
* industrious  friendly

1. Which of the following do you find most impressive about Lydia?

* She was a business woman at a time when few women were.
* Her heart was immediately receptive to the Gospel.
* She convinced her household to be baptized.
* She was willing to open her home to strangers.

1. Lydia managed to care for her business, her spiritual life and her household. On a scale from 1 to 10, how would you rate yourself in each area:

business/professional life

spiritual life

home life

1. What step do you need to take to put your work life, spiritual life and family life in better balance?
2. Lydia’s “place of prayer”was by a river. What is your favorite place to meet God?

* in church  with others in a small group
* alone in my home  outside in natural surroundings
* at special meetings or retreats  other:

1. How did the Lord open your heart to respond to the Gospel? What people did God use as part of the process?
2. In comparison, how open to the Lord is your heart right now? What would make it, and keep it, more open?
3. When you were little, what did you want to be when you grew up?
4. Regarding career and family, what are your hopes and dreams now? What would you change about your life if you could?
5. Lydia’s status appears to have been single head of household. What example from her life would you like to apply to your life?

* She didn’t seem to resent her situation in life.
* She made the most of her life both vocationally and spiritually.
* She used her situation in life to hospitably serve others.
* She avoided loneliness by taking initiative to reach out to people.

1. What have you appreciated about this course, and how has this group served you?

Fifth Bible Event



#### JESUS CAN HEAL!

**Mark 5:24-34**

**JESUS HEALS A BLEEDING WOMAN**

Many women confront situations that are only barely tolerable. This may be caused by chronic illness, by extremely difficult economic, family, or living situations. Jesus is the answer to every problem, but our own faith may be weak or uncertain. Today’s Bible event portrays a woman who struggled and won in the battle of faith to receive deliverance from the Lord.

Jesus had just agreed to go to the home of a man whose young daughter was dying. On the way he encounters a woman who most likely suffered from steady menstrual bleeding. Her affliction was social as well as physical since, according to Old Testament ritual laws, both her and anyone touching her were“unclean.”

1. What would you consider to be the worst of this woman’s problems?

* her physical suffering
* spending all her money in vain
* being a social outcast
* always being religiously impure
* guilt and low self-esteem

1. What do you think gave her the courage to touch Jesus’clothes?

* She didn’t have anything to lose.
* She was desperate.
* She believed she would be healed.
* She thought she could slip away unnoticed.

1. Why was it important to Jesus that the person who touched him be identified?

* so Jesus could see who it was
* so the crowd would know a miracle had taken place
* so he could point out that the woman’s faith had healed her
* so the woman could know she was accepted and given God’s peace
* so it would be clear her physical healing included social healing

1. What would have caused the woman’s fearful reaction in verse 33?

* fear of what the crowd would do
* fear of Jesus shaming her
* fear her healing would be revoked
* years of failure and rejection

1. In what way does this woman most remind you of yourself?

* having pain that no one can heal
* struggling with finances
* feeling emotionally alone
* feeling spiritually impure
* being shy about asking for help
* being shy about sharing what Christ has done for me

1. When do you remember being the most desperate for God’s help? How did Jesus “touch”you?
2. What causes the most shame associated with the sickness or the hard problems in your life?

* the guilt I feel just for being sick
* that my prayers aren’t working
* all the money my illness has cost
* being such a burden to others
* relying on medicine/pain relievers

1. What obstacles do you (or did you) need to “push through” to bring yourself in contact with the healing power of Jesus?

* anger toward those who hurt me
* fear of rejection
* the pain of broken trust
* feelings of guilt
* doubts that I really can be healed
* the stigma of a shameful identity

1. What does this story say about recovery from abuse?

* Jesus always has time and compassion for the abused.
* Jesus can help the abused become whole.
* Jesus understands how one kind of pain causes another.
* No one is too shameful for Jesus’touch.

Sixth Bible Event



#### BUILD ON THE ROCK

**Matthew 7:24-29**

**THE WISE AND FOOLISH BUILDERS**

How well do you confront serious problems in your life? Jesus warns us that one can be spared from such problems, but he assures us that some people will stand firmly in the face of anything and others will fail miserably. We conclude this series of lessons about the lives of distinguished women learning on what basis the life of each student can also be distin- guished. This parable ends Jesus’Sermon on the Mount, which began in Matthew 5.

1. Who is Jesus addressing here?

* people with hearing problems
* housing developers
* a crowd faced with a big decision
* nobody I know
* everybody I know

1. What does the rock refer to?

* the truth of the Gospel
* faith in Jesus
* Jesus himself
* obedience to Jesus’words

1. What does the sand refer to?

* atheism and agnosticism
* weak doctrine
* inadequate commitment
* the world’s values
* disobedience to Jesus’words

1. Why did the foolish man build his house on sand?

* He wanted a beach in his yard.
* It was an easier place to dig.
* He got the land at a bargain price.
* Other people were doing it.
* He didn’t know he was doing it.

1. What is Jesus promising those who are willing to live by his words?

* You will never experience storms.
* You will experience the same storms as everyone else.
* The storms won’t destroy your faith.
* You will remain standing, no matter what happens.

1. What kind of storm do you think claims the most spiritual casualties?

* intellectual doubts
* moral failures
* relational conflict
* personal crises
* creeping apathy

1. What’s the immediate forecast for the “weather”in your life?

* sunny
* occasional thunderstorms
* dreary
* a hurricane

1. To be a “wise builder”at this point in your life, do you need to learn more or practice what you have already learned?
2. Being totally honest, what is the foundation you depend on?

* my abilities  good health
* my status  my family
* wishful thinking  my resources
* self-confidence  faith in Christ

1. How would you describe your spiritual foundation?

* shaky  steady
* brand new  temporary
* eroding  destroyed, but I’m trying to rebuild

1. What is the message of this parable to you about the realities of life?

* If my focus is on the externals of life, the results will be disastrous.
* If spiritual foundations are right, circumstances don’t really matter.
* If I base my life on Christ, he will make my dreams come true.
* If I base my life on Christ, my dreams may not come true, but God will make me content.