

Coming Alongside One Another

How God Uses Ordinary Women to Help Other Women

I. Introduction

II. God's Calling

- A. Live to serve the Lord and others. Luke 9:23-24 Acts 9:36,39
- B. Titus 2:3-5
- C. Spiritual mothering. Proverbs 1:8, 6:20, 31:26 1 Tim. 5:9-10
- D. You are more accessible than a counselor in an office. Esther 4:14
- E. Galatians 6:1-3
- F. Colossians 3:16
- G. Proverbs 31:26
- H. Matthew 18:15
- I. It is preferable to have women helping other women.

III. Despite our Fear

- A. The Holy Spirit Gives us something to say. John 20:19-23 1 Peter 1:3
- B. He gives us our calling. Mark 12:31 Proverbs 3:27-28
- C. We have the Great Commission. Matthew 28:19-20
- D. We are "clay pots." Isaiah 64:8 2 Corinthians 4:7
- E. "Lord, grant me a willing spirit." Psalm 51:12b

IV. Biblical Examples of Fearful People Being Used by God

- A. Sarah -- 1 Peter 3:4-5, 6b
- B. Moses -- Exodus 3:1-14
- C. Isaiah -- Isaiah 6:1-8
- D. Peter -- Matthew 14:22-33
- E. Timothy -- 2 Timothy 1:6-8

V. Antidotes for the Fear of Helping Women

- A. "I don't know what to say" Hebrews 3:13
 - 1. We need to know the Bible. Proverbs 2:1-6, 9-11 Proverbs 3:5-6
 - 2. Let Scripture do the work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 1 Peter 2:2 Psalm 19:7-9
 - 3. Just rely on the Lord. Ephesians 6:19 John 15:5
- B. "But I have my own problems!" John 15:2 2 Corinthians 1:3-5

VI. The Personal Benefits of Bearing the Burdens of Others

- A. We grow in our love for the Lord and His word. Psalm 51:12a
 - 1. We learn the Scripture.
 - 2. We study the Bible in depth.
- B. We grow in sanctification.
 - 1. We need to “practice what we preach.” 1 Timothy 4:16 Hebrews 6:10-12
 - 2. We learn patience. 2 Timothy 2:24
 - 3. Godly character is a requirement in Titus 2:3.
 - a. Reverent.
 - b. Not a malicious gossip or slanderer. Ephesians 4:29 Ephesians 4:25
Philippians 4:8 Proverbs 10:19
 - c. Not enslaved to much wine. Romans 6:16-18 1 Cor. 6:12 1 Cor. 10:31
 - 4. People-pleasing can prevent us. Galatians 6:1-2 Matthew 5:23-24
- C. Read the Bible through counseling eyes.

VII. Suggestions

- A. Don't take responsibility for your friends.
 - 1. They are God's. Philippians 1:6
 - 2. You can't save them.
- B. Don't be afraid to fail. Ezekiel 2:6-7, 3:11, 3:16-21 Philippians 4:13
- C. Rely on the Lord. 2 Thessalonians 3:13 Philippians 2:12-13 Hebrews 4:12
- D. Don't be a busy-body. 1 Timothy 5:13 2 Timothy 3:6-7
- E. Rely on others for advice. 2 Corinthians 4:5 Proverbs 11:14 Proverbs 24:5-6
- F. Be flexible.

VIII. Remember the Goal

- A. We are to point women to Christ. 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1
- B. Sometimes we warn. Genesis 4:6-7 Matthew 19:16-22 1 Thessalonians 5:14

IX. Conclusion

- 1 Thessalonians 2:7-8 Galatians 5:13 Hebrews 6:10 1 John 4:4 1 Peter 4:10-11