

Through The Bible In One Year

The Adventure of Many Lifetimes

Unpublished Work, December 2005, Laura Gardner.

Theme: Women of God

Week 18 Small Group Bible Study & Sunday School Lesson

Open (Sharing our Own Stories & Getting To Know One Another)

1. What special challenges do women face? 2. What strengths do Christian women bring to the body of Christ? 3. What women may need our help?

Going Deeper Into God's Word Together

Read aloud Ruth 1.11-22; Psalm 103.1-12; John 4.13-30,39.

Ruth: 1. What has made Naomi so bitter? Do we ever feel that the Lord brings misfortune upon us? How can we refrain from becoming bitter? 2. Ruth is willing to sacrifice her own future to remain with Naomi. What situations call us to make sacrifices for others? 3. What qualities of Ruth does God use in his plans for her?

Psalm: 1. What are the 'benefits' God bestows upon believers? 2. What qualities of the Lord does David praise? 3. What praise do we need to offer up to God?

John: 1. Jesus speaks to the Samaritan woman about water that will become in her a spring of water welling up to eternal life. How does this show itself in a Christian's life? 2. Jesus shocks the woman with personal details about her life. What does it mean to us that Jesus also knows personal things about us and still forgives us? 3. Many Samaritans became believers because of the woman's testimony. How can we strengthen and share our own witness to those around us?

Reflecting On What God Is Telling Us:

1. How far have you been willing to go outside your 'comfort zone' to show God's love to others? _____out of the country _____out of my state _____out of my town _____out of my home _____nowhere.
2. What do you need from God (or others) to take the next larger step? (even within your own community)

Applying/Putting Into Practice What God's Told Us

Who will learn of God's love for them because of your words or actions this week?