

WORKSHOP: RED TENT MENTORING

By Jennifer Wake

PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE

RELEVANCE: What is mentoring? How can we develop mentoring relationships without becoming overwhelmed? Mentoring is meeting with women who are younger, older or the same age to share life experiences together.

INTRO: PWOC, OUR PROVERBIAL "RED TENT"

- Genesis 34; Leviticus 12 & 15
- Rest, Fellowship, Mutual Understanding
- What are some ways that PWOC might be similar to the atmosphere of the Red Tent?

1. Peer Mentoring: Martha and Mary

- Luke 10:38-42
- John 11:17-27
- John 12:1-7
- Martha and Mary had different strengths and personalities that provided mutual benefit for growth. We learn from our peers who are uniquely designed by God.



ACTIVITY:

Take a few minutes to make a list of your BFFs. Who is like you? Who has kids your kids' ages? Who is walking in your shoes? How do they impact your life? How do you impact theirs? How often do you connect? Form a small group (2-3 people) and share your answers with 1 or 2 other ladies.

1. "Younger" Mentoring "Older": Ruth and Naomi

- Sometimes there are those who are younger in age, but "older" or more mature in their Christian walk
- Ruth 1:16-18 But Ruth said, 'Do not urge me to leave you or turn back from following you; for where you go, I will go, and where you lodge, I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God, my God. Where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. Thus may the LORD do to me, and worse, if anything but death parts you and me.' When she [Naomi] saw that she [Ruth] was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.
- Ruth 2:2 And Ruth the Moabitess said to Naomi, 'Please let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain after one in whose sight I may find favor.' And she said to her, 'Go, my daughter.'
- Ruth 2:18 She took it [gleaned wheat] up and went into the city, and her mother-in-law saw what she had gleaned. She also took it out and gave Naomi what she had left after she was satisfied.
- Ruth helped Naomi trust in God again
- I Timothy 3:11 Women must likewise be dignified, not malicious gossips, but temperate, faithful in all things.
- Do you have a "younger" woman who has taught you about things?

ACTIVITY:

Break into your same group of 2 or 3 and share about a younger woman in your life who has taught you about spiritual things.

III. "Older" Mentoring "Younger": Naomi and Ruth

- Naomi starts teaching Ruth about the culture.
- Ruth 3:1 Then Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, 'My daughter, shall I not seek security for you, that it may be well with you?'
- Ruth 3:18 Then she said, 'Wait, my daughter, until you know how the matter turns out; for the man will not rest until he has settled it today.'
- **Proverbs 31:26** She opens her mouth in wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.
- **Titus 2:2-5** Older men are to be temperate, dignified, sensible, sound in faith, in love, in perseverance. Older women likewise are to be reverent in their behavior, not malicious gossips nor enslaved to much wine, teaching what is good, so that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, to be sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not be dishonored.
- Teaching, and encouraging. That sounds like PWOC!

ACTIVITY:

Meet with your group one last time and share about the following questions:

- What skill or talent do you have that you could share with "younger" women? How could you share? Where?
- In what way(s) can you pass on your faith, your love of God, to the next generation? Is God encouraging you to branch out in this area? How?

APPLY IT TO LIFE:

- Who is God calling you to build relationship with? Is it someone who is already a part of your life? Are there adjustments needed in the relationship?
- Is there someone you are not currently in relationship with that perhaps God is calling you to befriend? What can you do to establish friendship with them? Could a passion, hobby or skill you possess become common ground for your friendship to grow?

Let's take a few minutes to sit quietly before the Lord. Write down the name of anyone God brings to mind. Jot down any direction you receive on how to enhance a current friendship or how to pursue a new one. In about five minutes, we'll come back together for a closing prayer.