

## Session Eight Homework

### Day One

1. Think of the old wise women in your life that you admire. What are some of their characteristics and qualities?
2. Read Titus 2:3,4. What is the role of older women? Who are the older women in your life who reveal goodness to you?
3. Consider your strengths and gifts. How can you envision God using those in your later years to bring encouragement?
4. Consider your life story (so far). How can you envision God using your story to bring hope and healing to other women?

*Today's prayer:*

*Lord, give me a vision of your dreams for me. Help me to envision a future of hope with you, a future where I am living out a destiny that brings the life-changing reality of Jesus into the world around me. Give me a picture of my life as a peaceful, content old woman and show me what stands in the way of me being there someday.*

## Day Two

Read the stories of Simeon and Anna in Luke 2:25-38

1. This is the story of two very old, very faithful people. What strikes you about them? How connected to God did they appear to be?
2. Have you ever thought, "It's too late for me"? I am too old or too hurt or too wounded to truly experience all God has for me?
3. How might that attitude contrast to the experience Simeon and Anna had?
4. Read I Peter 2:8,9. How different would your life be, both today and in the future, if you lived as "a royal priesthood"?

*Today's prayer:*

*Father, help me to accept that I am part of a royal priesthood. Help me to live in that royal lifestyle that comes from you. Give me the faith to believe you can deal with my hurts and my wounded-ness so I can experience your abundant life today and in my future as an old woman. Help me see that it is never "too late" to experience your goodness and sense the working of your Spirit.*

## Day Three

1. Read the following stories about Peter: Matthew 26:69-75; John 21:15-19; Matthew 16:13-18

2. What kind of guy was Peter? What was his profession?

One pastor referred to him as “Lunch Pail Pete,” just a regular, goofy guy.

He certainly made his share of mistakes.

3. What can you learn from Peter’s life and how God still used him?

4. He was a denier, a liar and a hider....yet what did Jesus tell him in Matthew?

*Today’s prayer:*

*God, you really are big enough for all my junk. Help me to be brave enough to be brutally honest with myself, with others and with you so I can push against the things that keep me from growing in you. Help me to believe that your grace truly is sufficient, and that through Christ I can face all things.*

## Day Four

Read Judges 6:7-24 and 8:28, the story of Gideon.

1. Look closely at verse 6:12, 13 and 15. How would you rate Gideon's confidence level? (For crying out loud, he's threshing wheat in a wine press – *hiding*).
2. After he figured out that it really was God speaking to him, what name did he give God in verse 24?
3. In Hebrew, God's name is Jehovah-Shalom in this verse. Look again at verse 8:28. What did Israel experience during Gideon's lifetime?
4. In spite of Gideon's initial fearfulness, he experienced peace, and led his people to a time of peace. What does this mean to you, as you consider Jehovah-Shalom?
5. What is keeping you from experiencing God's peace in your life? What fears, hurts, habits or hang-ups?

*Today's prayer:*

*Lord, you showed yourself faithful to pursue and save the Israelites over and over again, even through weak-kneed folks like Gideon. When he accepted who you were, he became a great leader. Help me to experience your peace, Jehovah-Shalom. Let your peace sink deep into my life so I shift control of my growing up to You and Your grace.*