



Encouragers of Young Women

Lesson 08

Encouragers of Spiritual Growth

Panel

*Therefore encourage one another
and build up one another, just as you also are doing.*

I Thessalonians 5:11

Spiritual Mothering

“When a woman with faith and spiritual maturity enters into a nurturing relationship with a younger women in order to encourage and equip her to live for God’s glory.”

Susan Hunt

Encouragement

“To inspire to continue on a chosen course; impart courage or confidence to; embolden; hearten. To give support to.”

American Heritage Dictionary

*But encourage one another day after day,
as long as it is still called “Today” . . .*

Hebrews 3:13

1. What have you discovered about the needs and wants of young women in the area of Spiritual Encouragement?

2. What practical ways to encourage young women in their spiritual growth have you found helpful and effective?

“Just after the birth of Kathryn’s second baby, she was paired with an older woman prayer partner in her church. Joanne called Kathryn every week. She simply asked, “How do you need me to pray this week?” Kathryn looked forward to the calls. It was encouraging to know that Joanne was praying. The weeks passed; the relationship grew. One day when Joanne called, Kathryn had real needs. She could confide in Joanne because this woman had spent time cultivating the relationship. Joanne listened, gave wise advice, and practical help. More importantly, she continued to pray.” – Spiritual Mothering

3. Let's talk about building relationships with young women. How important is it? How does it happen? What are the results?

“Each week in our women’s Bible study, older and younger women are paired as prayer partners. They are encouraged to minister to each other during the week. One week, during sharing time, three of the young women told about being invited, along with their pre-school children, to Margaret’s home for lunch. During the previous weeks, Margaret had been paired with each of these women. The young women were joyously animated as they told about the delightful time they had getting to know Margaret and one another.

After listening to their glowing account of the day, I looked at Margaret and said, “And how did you feel about this event?” This seventy-ish widow’s eyes twinkled as she said, “I had so much fun, and that night I slept like a baby!” Since that time, there has been a steady stream of young women to Margaret’s home. Margaret has discovered a ministry. And are the young women encouraged: For sure!” – Spiritual Mothering



4. When you were challenged with becoming a Titus 2 older woman did you experience feelings of inadequacy, fear, intimidation, unwillingness, etc.? What helped you to overcome those feelings?

5. In what ways were you spiritually encouraged and challenged yourself in the process of helping others?

Susan Hunt's testimony from when she established her Titus 2 Ministry: "But again I knew we had experienced what God desires when the older women talked of how they had learned from the younger women. They particularly talked of how they had learned to communicate more openly and to share their feelings with the younger women.

My observation is that the combination of younger women who are teachable and godly older women who are willing to open their hearts gave us the privilege of obeying the Titus mandate." – Spiritual Mothering