

## Real Life ~ Real Answers

April-June 2012

Answers from God's Word about real life situations women face.

If you have a question that you would like to hear us discuss on the program, please let us know. You can contact us on Facebook, our blog ([www.womenintheword-wcts.blogspot.com](http://www.womenintheword-wcts.blogspot.com)), or write to us at the station:

WCTS Radio, Attn: Women in the Word, 900 Forestview Lane N, Plymouth, MN 55441.

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### April 6, 2012 ~ Feeling Empty

Priscilla knocked down her alarm clock, fumbled for it, found it, took a close look, and groaned. She'd overslept by almost an hour. She jumped out of bed and headed to the kitchen to grab something to take with her. Nothing. All her power bars and granola bars were gone. *It's going to be one of those days, she growled.*

At work, Priscilla punched her timecard with just seconds to spare. The day seemed to plod along as she did the same boring work and worked with the same annoying people.

At home Priscilla plopped down in front of the TV while she ate her supper. She watched her favorite shows and then, bored with what came afterward, she flipped through the channels, caught an old movie, and watched it to the end. She glanced at the clock as she headed for bed. Two a.m.

As Priscilla laid in bed the familiar sense of emptiness crept into her mind. She knew she shouldn't feel that way as a Christian, but she wasn't sure what to do about it. God seemed like a far away stranger to her.

**\*If Priscilla was your friend and shared her feeling of emptiness to you, what could you say to her to encourage her in her walk with God?**

**\*What practical things might Priscilla do to help her facilitate some quiet time with the Lord?**

**\*How might you help keep her accountable?**

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### April 13, 2012 ~ Sharing the Gospel

Mr. Watson tells his wife, "I think we should invite the Johnson family over for dinner this week." "Really?" Mrs. Watson replies. "They have 6 children and that would really stretch our food budget thin." "I know," said Mr. Watson, "but I have been thinking about how important it is that we try to get to know them in order to share the gospel with them. If we can stretch our budget in order to share Christ, isn't it worth it?" Mrs. Watson thinks about

what her husband says and knows she can't disagree with sharing the gospel, but she is really worried about feeding a family of 8 and being setback with their food for the rest of the week.

**What are Mrs. Watson's challenges?**

**\*What truths can she remember from Scripture to help her with her challenges?**

**\*What may she practically do in the future to prepare for hospitality whether it is planned or unexpectedly?**

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**April 20, 2012 - Praising God at All Times**

"Did Catherine really tell you how thankful she was that her husband lost her job?" said Tina at church one evening. "She looked like she was smiling when she was talking to you."

Joan replied, "Yes, she did. She told me that this job loss was an answer to her and her husband's prayer."

"Huh?" said Tina. "You mean they actually prayed for her husband to lose his job?"

"Well, not exactly for him to lose his job. But they did pray that God would increase their faith and Catherine was just praising God that they now have this opportunity to grow in their faith through this trial" Joan said.

**\*Why is praising God always appropriate in any circumstance?**

**\*What hinders you from praising God in public to others?**

**\*How do you do at praising God during times of distress?**

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**April 27, 2012 - Giving Hope**

Anna wondered if life really was worth living. She pondered the thought of just ending it all to be done with all the pain she was feeling inside. Her father's recent death, her husband's abuse and feeling alone have all been too much to bear. Although she grew up in a Christian home and accepted Christ as a young teen girl, her life was bleak now. "Does God really care?" she wondered. She knew her eternal home was WITH God so why not just end it all now and save myself from more misery. Anna hadn't felt close to God in a very long time and felt fear as she contemplated what she was considering doing. Driven by this fear she decides to call her friend, Sharon who is married to a pastor. "Maybe she can help me," thought Anna.

**\*What could Sharon say to Anna to encourage her from God's Word?**

**\*Is there anything Sharon can do to help Anna be in a safe situation?**

**\*What are some practical things Anna could do to grow closer to God?**

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**May 4, 2012 - Modeling Forgiveness**

Stephanie looked at her co-worker Lacy and told her how she couldn't believe how forgiving Lacy was being to the boss who had treated her so wrongly. "How can you not take this situation to management and get your boss fired!" said Stephanie. Lacy was thrilled to finally have this opportunity to share Christ's forgiveness with Stephanie. Lacy shared how she believed God would judge her boss in His time. Lacy went on to say that God had forgiven her of many sins and she wanted to show God's forgiveness to her boss. She moved on to share exactly how God had forgiven her, through the sacrifice of God's Son, Christ on the cross. The conversation ended quickly as their break was over, but Stephanie had a lot more questions she was sure to ask Lacy.

**\*How was Lacy was ready to "give an answer" about her faith?**

**\*What could Lacy do to follow up with Stephanie about their conversation?**

**\*It's not always easy to share Christ in the workplace. What are some ways in which you can show God's love to your co-workers?**

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**May 11, 2012 - Leading With Criticism from Others**

You've been given the task of heading up a specific ladies' ministry. You've been a member of your church for five years, and there are many faithful ladies who have been serving in your church for many years...some up to 20 or more. You accept the leadership of the ministry, and announce you are making a few changes, which you believe would make the events you are planning, more appealing to more ladies. One lady who has been with the church for many years, becomes very upset about the changes and makes her opposition known. You've already run it by the pastors, and several other ladies and they all approve and agree with you on the change.

**\*What do you do in response of this lady's opposition? Do you keep things as they are? After all, this lady has been a faithful member and servant of the Lord for many years, and this is a real bone of contention for her.**

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**May 18, 2012 - Hope in God's Word**

Evelyn has had a difficult few years. Difficult and strenuous pregnancies left her very tired to care for her husband and home. Then she found out her husband wants a divorce - He's found another woman who he wants to be with and has already defiled the marriage relationship by sinfully acting upon his feelings for this other woman. Stunned and angry, she

agrees to the divorce. A year later she is raising her 3 children alone and her mother passes away. Evelyn is in despair and feels no one at church can really understand what she is going through. She has tried to read her Bible because she has been told that God's Word can help, but she isn't finding any answers.

**\*What are some things Evelyn might be missing in her walk with God?**

**\*If Evelyn is your friend, how can you "be there" for her to encourage her from God's Word through these difficult days?**

**\*What are some practical ways the church can rally behind Evelyn to encourage her with her physical needs (caring for children, working full time, time to rest, ect...)?**

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### **May 25, 2012 - Idols of the Heart**

Bonnie calls you just sobbing, "It was negative, again!!!" You quickly realize she is talking about the results of the pregnancy test you knew she was excited to take. You sigh and quickly pray that God would give you the right words to comfort your friend. Bonnie and her husband have been trying to have a baby for quite some time. Bonnie so desperately wants a baby. She stares at the other young women in church who have children and can't wait until she can have a child of her own. When you talk with her, ALL she talks about is getting pregnant. She has ideas for names, for the nursery, how to raise the child. She even has started picking up maternity clothes and things for the baby. Her husband is supportive but is growing weary of the constant emotion involved. Bonnie is your best friend and you are grieved to see her so disappointed every month.

**\*As Bonnie's friend, how should you answer this desperate phone call?**

**\*What is unbiblical about Bonnie's thinking?**

**\*What must Bonnie focus on more than having a baby?**

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### **June 1, 2012 - Biblical Hope**

A friend of yours is living in some form of sin. She has openly admitted to you that she regularly takes part in this sin and has told you about her struggles in stopping this sin. She seems to be searching for some help to overcome this sin.

**\*How should you respond?**

**\*What Scripture would encourage her?**

**\*How can you practically help her as she overcomes this sin?**

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**June 8, 2012 - Speaking Up**

You are at your weekly Mom's group Bible study and some of the other moms in the group begin to comment about another mom who hasn't attended in a few weeks. They mention how she hasn't been in church lately either and begin to speculate what is going in her life. These moms say some things against both her and her husband and you see the conversation turning mean very quickly.

**\*How should you respond to the other moms?**

**\*What are some ways you could be an encouragement to the mom who hasn't attended lately?**

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**June 15, 2012 - A Witness At All Times**

You are active in your community events and have formed many good friendships with unsaved people because of your involvement. You haven't been shy about being a Christian and have looked for opportunities to witness to others. One day, a lady whom you have worked with closely for some time, asks you exactly what you believe and wants to know more about your faith?

**\*What would you tell her?**

**\*If she accepts Christ, what steps can you encourage her to take in order to grow spiritually?**

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**June 22, 2012 - An Encouraging Wife**

You and your husband have been married for a few years. He is a godly man and you know he desires to do what is right. However, the last several months you have noticed that he struggles to do his daily devotions, he becomes angry very quickly, his passion for ministry is waning and you fear that he is struggling with sin.

**\*What can you do to encourage your husband to get excited about his walk with God again?**

**\*How can you pray for him?**

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**June 29, 2012 - A Friend in Need**

A friend of yours has had a very difficult year. Within that time frame, her family has encountered multiple sicknesses, her mother passed away from cancer, her husband lost his job which has made finances very tight and because of that they recently received notice that their house is about to go into foreclosure.

**\*How can you encourage this friend?**

**\*What are some practical things you could also do to encourage her?**