**Titus Women’s Discipleship Summit**

**30 Days of Devotions**

***“Abide in Me and I in You ... the Key John 15:4*.”**

These devotionals are written by Marilyn Lefevre in anticipation of this year’s Discipleship Summit. The theme of this year’s event is *“Abide in Me and I in You ... the Key John 15:4*.”

Day 1

*“Now Elijah, who was from Tishbe in Gilead, told King Ahab, ‘As surely as the Lord, the God of Israel, lives—the God I serve—there will be no dew or rain during the next few years until I give the word!’”*

1 Kings 17:1 (NLT)

Elijah bursts onto the pages of scripture with this statement to King Ahab, “*‘As surely as the Lord, the God of Israel, lives—the God I serve—there will be no dew or rain during the next few years until I give the word!’”* (1 Kings 17:1 NLT)

God sent Elijah to deliver a devastating message to King Ahab. There would be no rain for a few years! Why a drought? King Ahab, married Jezebel who worshiped Baal, a Canaanite fertility god of storm and rain. It wasn’t long before King Ahab was bowing in worship to Baal, who then built a temple, an altar, and then set up an Asherah pole all for the worship of Baal. (1 Kings 16:29-33) I can’t help but think God wanted King Ahab and all those who were bowing in worship to Baal to realize that their lifeless god was no match for the one true God.

I found myself increasingly amazed each time I read about Elijah and the events that took place in his life, however I was repeatedly drawn to the relationship between God and Elijah. This in turn made me think of my own relationship with God.

In 1 Kings 17:1 Elijah made a brave statement to King Ahab saying, *“As surely as the Lord, the God of Israel, lives—the God I serve—there will be no dew or rain during the next few years until I give the word!”* I sensed the Holy Spirit asking me, “Do you know and serve the living God”? Have you ever been asked that question?

God created us to have a relationship with Him, nothing else will satisfy us. I believe many people know about God, but they do not have a personal relationship with Him. My question to you is this, “Do you know the living God as your Lord and Savior?” If you have never confessed your sins and asked Jesus to forgive you, please don’t let another day go by until you do. Where you will spend eternity is at stake, as well as having an abiding relationship with Jesus.

If you have never asked Jesus to forgive you, why not do so now:

Confess your sins to Jesus

Ask Jesus for forgiveness

Believe in your heart that you are saved

Here is a prayer to help you pray to Jesus. Tell Jesus what is on your heart.

Jesus

I know I have sinned against you and I am sorry, please forgive me. I believe Jesus died on the cross for my sins and I want You to be Lord of my life. Thank you for loving me and forgiving me. Please direct my thoughts and steps, showing me how to life every day for You.

Amen

***God’s Plan of Salvation***

***All have sinned:***

*Romans 3:10 “As the Scriptures say, ‘No one is righteous— not even one.’”*

*Romans 3:23 “For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard.”*

***Sin brings death:***

*Romans 6:23 “For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

***We cannot save ourselves:***

*Ephesians 2:8-9 “God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can’t take credit for this; it is a gift from God.****9****Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.”*

***We have a Savior:***

*John 20:31 “But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in him you will have life by the power of his name.”*

*Acts 4:12 “There is salvation in no one else! God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved.”*

*Romans 5:8 “But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.”*

***We must come to Jesus:***

*John 6:37 “However, those the Father has given me will come to me, and I will never reject them.”*

*Matthew 11:28 “Then Jesus said, “Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.”*

***We must personally trust Him as our Savior:***

*John 1:12-13 “But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God.****13****They are reborn—not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God.”*

*Romans 10:9-10**“If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.****10****For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved.”*

*All scripture is taken from The New Living Translation (NLT)*

If you would like someone to pray with you, please feel free to call the Titus Women’s Office at 859-858-4222 x119.

Prayer:

Father, it is with great humility that I come before You, grateful that You have given me Your word to learn by and live by.

Father, I don’t want to miss Your voice, Your message, or Your presence. Jesus, I give You all of me, for all of You.

In Jesus Name,

Amen