

GATHER. BE STILL. MOBILISE.

**“IF ONE WOMAN CAN CHANGE HER WORLD,
IMAGINE WHAT ONE COMPANY OF WOMEN CAN DO.”**

Bobbie Houston, *The Sisterhood Book*

This study has been designed with you and your friends in mind... to help you begin to dream and imagine what you can do as a group to make your world a better place.

Our prayer is that it will help to align your thoughts and ideas as a group and come up with a pathway forward in your endeavours to be the change in your community and world.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN...

BE STILL.

**PRAY
AND COMMIT
YOUR TIME
TOGETHER
TO GOD.**

Ask the Holy Spirit to guide your conversation and be prepared to listen and encourage each other as you bounce around thoughts and ideas.

“...Be still and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.”

PSALM 46:10 (NIV)

“The steps of a good woman are ordered by the LORD, And He delights in her way.”

PSALM 27:23 (NKJV PARAPHRASED)

“Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.”

PSALM 37:4 (NIV)

“For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and our father’s family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?”

ESTHER 4:14 (NIV)

WHAT DO THESE VERSES MEAN TO YOU AS A GROUP?

WHAT IS YOUR “FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS”?

WHAT IS THE ISSUE THAT YOU ARE MOST PASSIONATE ABOUT?

If you want to respond together, choose one as a group that you can all align on before you move forward.

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith — and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God — ⁹not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

EPHESIANS 2:8-10

“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.”

1 PETER 4:10

WHEN PAUL TALKS ABOUT GOOD WORKS WHAT IS HE TALKING ABOUT HERE?

HOW DOES THAT APPLY TO YOU?

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN FOR YOU AS A GROUP?

PETER TALKS ABOUT GIFTS BEING GIVEN TO EACH OF US.

WHAT IS YOUR GIFT THAT YOU BRING TO THE TABLE?

HOW MIGHT YOU USE IT IN SERVICE OF OTHERS?

Go around each person in your group and find out what gifts you have.

WHAT'S *NEXT?*

Perhaps this conversation has brought some issues to mind. Perhaps you would like to dig further into either the issues that have come up or just start to put together a plan of what to do next. One way of doing that is to start asking the following questions. Do it as a group or individually over the next few days and a plan will start to form.

REFLECT. RESPOND. RALLY.

The needs in the world can be overwhelming and so can the number of ways to respond to those needs. It's sometimes difficult to know where to even begin.

So with this in mind, let's dig a little deeper and seek to take personal ownership as a group of ONE thing that you can begin to do to make a felt difference in your community.

We use the following framework to help us respond in the most effective way -

REFLECT, RESPOND, RALLY.

REFLECT

CORE PRINCIPLE

“Do no harm” requires knowledge and planning not just good intentions.

HEAD

- Do your homework before taking action.
 - Research, learn more about the issue you want to respond to before jumping in.
 - Ask a lot of questions.
 - Remember that people are experts in their own lives. Avoid assumptions.
 - Asking “why?” five times will often help you get to close to the root cause of a problem.
 - Lean into the complexity. Solving social challenges isn’t easy.
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HEART

- What are you passionate about? (Pay attention to what you are repeatedly drawn to; makes you angry, or something you’d love to see change)
 - Are you drawn towards issues facing children, sisters, or nations?
 - Do you want to be a part of transforming your local neighbourhood, or engaging as a global citizen? Or both?
 - What is your church’s mission statement?
 - What areas does your church feel called to?
 - What can you rally people around? What will those around you respond to?
 - What sparks your curiosity and creativity?
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HANDS

- What do you have in your hands?
 - Financial resources, time, spiritual gifts, networks, social media following, etc.
- What is your current season of life?
- What is your sphere of influence?
- How can you use your vocation to seek justice?
- What’s something unique you bring to the table?
- What are you really good at? What do you lose track of time doing?
- Who are the others already working in this space you may be able to join with?

RALLY

CORE PRINCIPLE

*“If one woman can change her world,
imagine what one company of women can do.”*

-Bobbie Houston, The Sisterhood Book

- Think about how you are going to communicate to your organisation/church.
- Be very clear on what you are asking of them and communicate the ‘why’.
- What are the preferred communication methods for your congregation?
- Don't over promise to them either.
- Rally them for small practical things first.
- Don't be the hero!
- Connect them with great organisations in your area that are doing it well.
- What stories can you share about what God is doing, which will inspire others to engage?
- Stories have the power to change hearts and minds.

**“THE MIRACLE OF RESPONSE
IS CLOSER THAN MANY REALISE,
OFTEN NO FARTHER THAN ACROSS
THE BACK FENCE OR DOWN THE
VERY STREETS WE LIVE ON.”**

-Bobbie Houston, The Sisterhood Book

DIG

A LITTLE DEEPER

Another way that you can hone in on what you could do together as a group is to have a go at the Colour Sisterhood Questionnaire. This short questionnaire will take less than five minutes and will conclude with a few options that could help set you on a path to be the change in your world.

There are many more resources available for you to delve a little deeper into how you can be the change in your community. Use the QR code to access resources like our Sisterhood E-books, Resources Catalogue, Sisterhood Fight Club Prayer Maps. Or find out more about issues affecting Children, Sisters and Nations. It's all designed to help you explore ways to make a difference in your world.



Open the camera on your smartphone and hover over the QR code. Click the link and off you go!



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