

The Privilege

A study for Women in Leadership

LESSON FOUR

Brokenness and Guidance

This week's lesson is based on chapters seven and eight of our book, *The Privilege* and focuses on our need for brokenness and for God's guidance in our lives. We may see brokenness as an unpleasant thing, and guidance as something desirable, but both are necessary and are given to us from the heart of a Father who loves us.

Before you begin your lesson, take a few minutes to pray and ask the Lord to open your eyes to all He wants you to see, and to open your ears to hear His voice.

1. With that attitude in mind, prayerfully read through the seventh chapter of "The Privilege." As you read, underline, take notes on a separate sheet of paper, or use a highlighter to mark the things that stand out to you. We'll look back at those things later in this lesson.

As we begin our lesson, re-read the last two paragraphs of chapter seven on page 153. Kay gives us a beautiful analogy here that demonstrates our need for brokenness. Without it, the perfume of God's Spirit cannot be released, but when broken, it not only blesses and honors Christ, it permeates the atmosphere of everywhere we go with the sweet fragrance of God's love, drawing others to its beautiful scent.

2. In her beautiful analogy, how does Kay describe the **outside** of the alabaster box and its value?
 - a. How does she describe the **contents** of the box and its value?
 - b. Kay ends this chapter with a plea for us to "...be **willing** to be **broken**." Before we go any further, stop and ask the Lord to give you a willingness for Him to do that work in your heart. If you'd like, you can record your prayer in a journal or on a separate sheet of paper.

3. Kay shares with us on page 132 how much she praises God that He would ever account her worthy of the privilege of touching lives and influencing people toward Him. She tells us that she doesn't take that responsibility lightly, and she prays we don't either. How does brokenness help us to touch people's lives and influence them toward God? Share your thoughts.

4. We read in this chapter several stories of those ministering to churches in other parts of the world; the trials they face, and the price they pay for being in ministry. Kay compares their experiences with ours, here in the United States. Though we all have our hardships, and we all experience some wounds and offenses, what does she warn us of in the 2nd paragraph on page 136? What must we be careful not to allow our wounds and offenses to turn into?
 - a. Look at the example she gives in the 3rd paragraph on that page. What is the danger of the response we read about in that example?

5. What is it we so often fail to realize (found in the second to last paragraph of page 136)?

6. What reason are we given for why brokenness is so necessary to the Christian life, found in the second paragraph on page 137?

a. Write out the simple definition given at the end of that same paragraph.

7. What is the result of walking in the light of God's holiness? (found on page 139)

8. What does it say about brokenness in the second to the last paragraph on page 139 and the first paragraph on page 140?

9. Kay shares on page 141, that when our fellowship with God is broken, we are always the ones who are at fault. God is never the One who breaks our fellowship with Him. What does she say to us in the second paragraph about the times our fellowship is broken with other people?

10. Write down the description given of the person who resists brokenness (found in the second paragraph on page 144).

a. What are we asked to pray for in the paragraph following that description?

11. We are given a **formula** for brokenness at the bottom of page 144. Kay shares that “The measure of your brokenness---which is also a measure of your spiritual maturity--- is equal to.....” Finish her thought in the space below.
12. What are the **marks** of brokenness? There are three that are spoken of in this chapter. The first and second are found on Page 146 and the third on page 147. List all three below.
13. There are three **methods** Kay shares that God uses to bring us to brokenness. The first is found on page 148. What is it?
- a. What does Kay tell us about our trials at the bottom of page 148? Why is it important for us to sometimes **stay** in our trial?
14. What are the second and third methods God uses to bring us to brokenness? (Found on page 149).

- a. Is there one of these methods God is using in your life right now? Stop and pray, asking the Lord to bring you to that place of brokenness so He can use you in a more powerful way to be that fragrance of Christ, poured out to others from a broken, alabaster box.

15. From the second paragraph on page 152, list the **wonderful things** that come through our brokenness.

16. What was your greatest take-away from chapter seven on brokenness? Use a separate sheet of paper if needed.

Prayerfully read through chapter eight of The Privilege. Highlight, underline or jot down the things that speak most to your heart as you read.

17. Write out the promise of Isaiah 58:11 below.

18. Kay shares with us, in the second to the last paragraph on page 160, that the Lord will continually guide us. It's His promise. What else does she share in that paragraph about God's guidance, and what warning does she give us?
19. In the paragraph following this, we are given an example of what can happen if we aren't "walking clean" before the Lord. Share what the results of that can be according to the example given.
20. In the middle of paragraph two on page 161, what are we told is necessary if we want God's guidance?
- a. Share the instructions from paragraph three on page 162, that we need to follow so that we don't "lose a moment of His guidance."

21. We read on page 163 that besides a daily cleansing, if we want the clear guidance of the Lord, we also need to **trust** Him. She notes Proverbs 3:5-6; a Scripture that we looked at in Lesson Three. Kay shares that part of **acknowledging** God is **waiting** on Him. Waiting can be so hard for us. As Kay points out, we want to hear from Him NOW, but God doesn't operate on our time table. Look up the following Scriptures: Psalm 27:14; Psalm 130:5; Isaiah 40:31; Isaiah 64:4 and Lamentations 3:25-26. Name some of the **blessings** that come to those who wait on the Lord.

22. At the bottom of page 163 and the top of page 164, Kay shares her thoughts on how Psalm 23 relates to the promise of Isaiah 58:11. Share why she states it is so important for us, as women in leadership, to stay close by the Shepherd so we can hear His voice.

23. What is the encouragement we're given in the last paragraph of chapter eight?

24. What was your greatest take-away from chapter eight on God's Guidance? Use a separate sheet of paper, if needed.