



- a. Do you believe this? Have you taken this to heart? These are questions we need to ask ourselves and meditate on. Below, write out the truth the psalmist gives us from Psalm 139:16. Share how this truth speaks to your heart.
  
3. Our time here on this earth is not random, nor is it meant to be squandered away, entangled with the temporal affairs of this temporal life. It is a gift with a purpose. Look up Ephesians 4:4-7 and 11-12. ALL of us have been given gifts. In verse 12, what is the purpose Paul states for the gifts God has given to us?
  - a. What is the goal of our ministry in the church? (See verses 13-16 of Ephesians 4).
  
4. We are all called to this ministry to the body of Christ, but as women in leadership, that calling has an even stronger impact and influence in the lives of others, especially the women in the church. The knowledge of that can be overwhelming at times; it can even be frightening. We can be overwhelmed by the certainty of our own inadequacies. We don't have a simple instruction manual of "Do's and Don'ts" or of "How To's," but god's Word tells us we have been given all we need. Look up 2 Peter 1:3-4. Write out verse 3 below.

- a. Along with giving us all things that pertain to life and godliness, what else does verse 4 tell us we have been given?

5. Everything we need, God has already given. It is at our disposal, but unless we tap into it, we remain unequipped and doomed for failure. Jesus tells us in John 15:4-5 that unless we **abide** in Him, we can do nothing. Look up in a dictionary the word “abide” and writ out the definition below.

- a. Now write down in your own words what you believe it means to abide in Christ. Share what the Lord is speaking to you personally.

The necessity of cultivating a strong devotional life is the real theme of this chapter. And how appropriate that is, because as Kay has shared, that is the starting point in the preparation of our hearts for ministry. **Our ministry to others will only be as effective as the time we spend in personal devotion, sitting at the feet of Jesus.**

6. On page 25 of our book, Kay stresses, as a pastor’s wife (or a woman in a position of leadership) the importance of having a daily devotional time. It is critical in ministering to others. She give us several examples that highlight this point. What fact does she give us as a warning to how dangerous and destructive it can be for our ministry if we are neglecting our personal time with the Lord?

7. Job says of God's Word in Job 23:12 that he treasured God's Word more than his necessary food. Chew on that for a few minutes (no pun intended). How quickly do I respond to my body telling me I need food? Even if I have a busy day or if I'm in the middle of a project, I won't ignore the hunger for too long. How much more should I respond to my need for spiritual good? What important, profitable benefits does God's Word give to us according to 2 Timothy 3:16-17?

a. How important is this when we are ministering to others? Share your thoughts.

8. Stop and ask the Lord to deepen your devotional life. You may already have a good devotional routine of daily sitting at Jesus' feet. Ask Him to open your eyes afresh to see what the Spirit wants to highlight to you in that time. Ask Him to open your ears to hear the faintest whisper of His voice.

If your devotional life has been waning (we all have those times) ask Him to fan the flames of passion in your heart and give you a strong hunger for His presence and for His Word; to desire that time more than your necessary food. If you desire, write out your prayer below. (Or you can write your prayer down in your prayer journal).

Prayerfully read through chapter two of “The Privilege.” As we did with chapter one, underline, take notes on a separate sheet of paper, or use a highlighter to mark important things in your reading that you feel the Lord is speaking to you.

Sitting at the feet of Jesus is a time to **listen** to His voice, and primarily He speaks to us out of His Word. Your devotional time is also a time to **communicate** to Him. The Lord wants us to have a two-way conversation with Him. Our prayer life is as important as the spiritual food of His Word.

9. This chapter centers on making it a goal to **become a woman of prayer**, and for that to be a fervent desire of our heart. In the second paragraph on page 37 of our book, Kay states that if nothing else, the one thing she would inspire us to do as women in leadership is to become women who pray. Write down the reasons she gives us in the paragraph as to why this is so important.
  
10. Read through chapter four of Nehemiah. After reading through the chapter, focus your attention on Nehemiah 4:7-9 and share what you think it means to be a **watchman (or woman) on the wall**. Why is this so important? What is the purpose and what are we watching for?
  
11. In the first paragraph on page 37, Kay states that prayer is the most important ministry in the church. What are some of the things she lists in this paragraph that are accomplished through prayer?

12. Kay states another truth in this paragraph, that although prayer is the most important ministry, it is also **the ministry most neglected**. There are a million reasons, or excuses, for why we often find ourselves neglecting our prayer life. Sometimes it's because the demands of the day are screaming loudly at us the moment we crawl out of bed. Sometimes it's because of our own willingness to allow ourselves to be distracted by anything and everything else.

Look over some of the reasons Kay suggests at the top of page 40. Take a moment to examine your own heart and ask the Lord to reveal to you the things that cause you, personally, to neglect prayer. As you do so, take each thing He reveals to you and lay it down at the foot of the cross in prayer. Ask the Lord to rid you of all your excuses and distractions. Ask Him to show you the things you need to correct and change in your schedule. Ask Him to stir in your heart a passionate desire to spend time with Him in prayer. And then, ask Him to give you His heart for others, to make you an intercessor. (Write these requests down in your prayer journal).

13. Look up 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18. Record the instructions Paul gives us in verse 17 and 18a.

a. What is the reason Paul gives for why we are to follow those instructions? (See verse 18b).

14. At the bottom of page 37 of our book, Kay quotes Ephesians 6:18 as a strong exhortation for prayer. Read this verse in its context, going back up to Ephesians 6:10 and reading through to verse 18. In the context of these verses, why is verse 18 so important, especially for those of us in leadership? (See verses 10-13 for more insight).

15. Record the **instruction** we're given in Philippians 4:6, and the **promise** given in 4:7.

16. James 5:16 tells us that the effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man (or woman) avails (or accomplishes) much. We know we aren't righteous in ourselves, but we have been clothed with the righteousness of Christ.

In the second paragraph on page 40 of our book, Kay states the fact that we don't realize the power that is within our grasp through prayer. She calls prayer the secret to success in ministry, and in living the Christian life. Write out the quote she gives us from A.J. Gordon in the next paragraph on that page.

17. At the bottom of page 46 of our book we're told that prayer is the **power** of God for the work of the ministry, and it is suggested that we put prayer for our husband and his ministry at the top of our prayer list. Record below the prayer points she suggests. Put a check mark next to those that stand out most to you.

18. The top of page 51 of our book expresses how much the church needs our prayer covering. What are some of the areas listed here that we need to lift up to the Lord in prayer?
19. What very practical advice is given to us when those calls for prayer come in at the most inconvenient times?
20. At the bottom of page 51, we are told not to neglect prayer for ourselves. We sometimes have a tendency to do that, praying for the many needs of others and their situations, and neglecting to pray for our own needs. As you read through page 52, write down in your own words the reasons Kay gives us for why prayer for ourselves is so important. Highlight the reasons that personally speak to your heart.
21. Turn back to page 45 of our book and re-read the second and third paragraphs. With those thoughts in mind, turn to page 57 and read the closing paragraph of this chapter and make it your prayer.
22. Look back through all that you noted or highlighted in chapters one and two. Share your greatest takeaways from this lesson. Use a separate sheet of paper, or write those take-aways in your journal.