

## **Raising Up Female Evangelists**

Public evangelism is a daunting task for many, yet how many evangelistic events have you attended in the last few years that have had women speaking? How many women do you know who are confident speakers and have opportunities to speak evangelistically? Why are so few women speaking in this context – and what can we do to help women be courageous? Reflecting on establishing Passion for Evangelism, a network to raise up female evangelists, this session will share ways to support women in evangelism and raise up a new generation of creative, public evangelists.

**Naomi "Nay" Dawson** works with IFES Europe as their Regional Training Co-ordinator, training staff and students across Europe and working on the senior European leadership team for the charity. Naomi is the founder of Passion for Evangelism. PFE is a network of creative, public female speakers, helping hundreds of women grow in confidence in public communication. In addition, Naomi has also set up an initiative called Community in a Crisis. CIAC has been helping churches and charities across Europe get online during the Covid-19 pandemic.

From the cradle to the grave, women were the first ones to witness and share the good news of Jesus. As you look at your planned events or your evangelistic courses, how many of them involve women publicly communicating about Jesus? Our evangelism must include prayer, personal conversations, small groups discussions and public communication. Public evangelism is vital if the gospel is to be heard by those who don't have any Christian friends. It's also a great way to start a conversation with those we see and interact with on a regular basis. This seminar will explore what the Bible says about men and women working together in evangelism, what some of the fears are that hold others back and some top tips on raising up female evangelists.

### **1. Events—from Genesis to Revelation—in which women play key roles in redemptive history**

We'll be taking time to explore what the Bible says about the role of women in proclaiming the good news of Jesus.

Examples: Genesis 2:18; 3:15; 16:13; Luke 1:5–38, 1:39–45; 1:46–55; John 2:1–11

### **2. Fears around evangelism**

Many of us are paralysed by fear when it comes to evangelism. We'll look at some of the recurring fears that hold us back.

- a. I'm not good enough
- b. I don't have many opportunities
- c. Someone else can do it better than me

### **3. Top tips for investing in female evangelists**

- Help emerging women evangelists get some experience
- Encourage them to read and listen widely
- Expose them to more experienced female evangelists
- Give them feedback that inspires them to do more

### **Passion for Evangelism**

Passion for Evangelism is a network of female evangelists who would like to grow in communicating the good news of Jesus Christ. PfE was set up by Nay Dawson in partnership with IFES Europe.