

Five Lies Women in Leadership Often Believe

As women increasingly live out their calling as leaders, we often believe lies that keep us from being as effective as we could be. We have an image in our minds of what a woman used by God should look like, and we are too easily discouraged when we do not live up to this ideal. How can we battle our insecurity and ongoing comparison to other leaders? How is it possible to be both a good woman and a good leader? How do we move beyond people pleasing to biblical leadership? How can we achieve a healthy balance and even make time for rest? This workshop will expose five lies that female leaders often believe, give practical steps to improve our leadership as Christ-following women, and provide opportunities to share from our experience with others.

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I. Women in leadership: The Challenge and the Call

Introduction to some major obstacles for women in leadership: limited opportunities, personal limitations and balance of work and family life.

II. Lies women in leadership often believe:

Lie #1 I am not good enough - confidence trap, comparison, and perfectionism
(Exodus 3:7-4:17, Galatians 6:4-5, 2 Corinthians 10:12)

Lie #2 I cannot be a Good woman and a good leader
(Proverbs 31)

Lie #3 I can make it without consistent time in the Word and prayer.
(John 15:1-7, Romans 12:2, Luke 10:39-42)

Lie #4 I can do it all - people pleasing – to be everything to everyone, Superwoman myth
(Galatians 1:10, Proverbs 29:25, Colossians 3:23, John 12:43)

Lie #5 I should not have to live with unfulfilled longings: Love yourself first - Embracing pleasure and avoiding pain
(Acts 20:35, Romans 12:9-13, Proverbs 14:1, Philippians 2:3,4)

III. CASE STUDY: When should Anna sound the burnout alarm?

Suggested Readings:

Halee Gray Scott, *Dare Mighty Things: Mapping the Challenges of Leadership for Christian Women* (Zondervan, 2014)

Jill Briscoe, *8 Choices that will change a Women's Life*, (Howards books, 2004)

Nancy Leigh DeMoss, *Biblical Womenhood in the home* (Crossway books, 2002)

John Piper and Wayne Grudem, *Recovering Biblical Manhood & Womenhood* (Crossway books, 1991)

Alan F. Johnson, *How I changed my mind about women leadership*, (Zondervan 2010)

Joanna Weaver, *Having a Mary heart in a Martha world*, (WaterBrook Press, 2000)

Biblical Femininity, *Discovering Clarity and Freedom in God's Design for Women*, (Grace church Publishing 2013) edited by Chrystie Cole