

Answering the Call to be a Godly Woman and a Godly Leader

As women, we often find ourselves challenged to have it all, be it all, and juggle everything with grace and beauty. We want to be Wonder Woman, but how often do we drop everything to spend time with the truly wonderful One? How can we cultivate a more intimate relationship with God, study His word, and apply it in our various roles? And having done that, what can we do to help others do the same thing?

Vesna Radeka is the president of Pregnancy Resource Center “Choose Life,” whose aim is to raise awareness about the value of human lives, to educate youth about their reproductive health, to help women who are facing unplanned pregnancies, and to help women hurt by abortion. She attended Philosophical College, and she received a degree in Serbian Literature and Language. In 2009 she finished graduate academic studies at the Novi Sad Protestant Theological Seminary. Since 1997 she has been involved in full-time ministry. From 1997-2000 she and her family lived in Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina, where they planted a church. From 2001-2003 she was involved in planting a church in Sombor, Serbia. In 2004 she began her work in the pro-life ministry in Serbia. Vesna is also helping her husband Nenad in establishing the New Plant Church in Novi Sad, Serbia. They have three children.

I. Introduction

II. A good woman and a good leader - is it possible to be both?

How to lead others well?

- a. You need to be led before you can lead.
- b. You need to love people before you can lead.
- c. You need to become a servant before you become a leader.

III. Exposing the Myth of the Superwomen: “I can do it all.”

- a. Approval addiction (Galatians 1:10, Colossians 3:23,24; John 12:43)

-Exodus 32 (Aaron has built a golden calf because of the pressure from other people; to ease their anxiety)

-Genesis 37:12-36 (Ruben was afraid of what other nine brothers would think if he were the only defender of Joseph, so he joined them in a dreadful crime)

-Galatians 2:11-14 (Paul confronted Peter for his hypocrisy, for being afraid of what the Jewish Christian would think of him)

- b. New freedom - Quit being afraid of what others think

A Healthy model:

- Jesus (Luke 4:28-31, John 6:14-15; Mark 3:21, John 6: 41-62)

- Mary (John 12: 1-8)

c. Quit overfunctioning

d. Quit dying to the wrong things

IV. A Call to Finish Well

(King Asa started well, king Manasseh finished well)

a. Embracing REST: What does REST in the Lord really means

b. Cultivating intimacy with Christ

Suggested Readings:

Gerri Scazzero, *Emotionally Healthy Woman* (Zondervan 2010)

John and Stasi Eldredge, *Captivating, Unveiling the Mystery of a Woman's Soul*, (Thomas Nelson, 2005)

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)

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

Mary E. De Muth, *Beautiful Battle, a Woman's Guide to Spiritual Warfare* (Harvest House Publishers, 2012)