

Women of God: A Call to Follow and a Call to Lead

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?

Jelena Sivulka was born and raised in Serbia, where she got her master's degree in psychology and master's degree in theology. She became a Christian 25 years ago and a few years later got involved in ministry with her husband Greg, planting churches, distributing humanitarian aid, and partnering with Joni and Friends, serving people with disabilities. Jelena has also worked as a counsellor in Serbia's schools and a social worker, and she is currently working as therapist in a medical clinic. She is the Founder and Director of the non-profit organisation Hana's Hope. She has been blessed with three children: Benjamin, Sara, and Hana, who has autism.

I. Introduction,

A. Never too late to begin. Story of Corrie ten Boom

"Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God."

II. Call to follow. Luke 8:1-3

Paying attention to God's active presence.

A. Hunger & Thirst for Jesus

What brings us to Jesus?

B. Dwelling in His presence.

1. Time to pray
2. Time to read
3. Time to fast

C. Fellowship with believers

"You called, you cried, you shattered my deafness, you sparkled, you blazed, you drove away my blindness. You shed your fragrance, and I drew in my breath, and I pant for you. I tasted and now I hunger and thirst. You touched me, and now I burn with longing for your peace."

Saint Augustine

III. Call to serve

Actively practicing obedience to God; His prompting, direction, leading and guidance.

1. Giving, Luke 8:3
2. Being a witness, 23:49
3. Serving, Luke 23:55

IV. Call to bear His name
Luke 24:9

Being seen by Him.

1. Waiting with patience
2. From action to passion

V. Call to suffer
Philippians 1:29

1. Importance of pain in believers life
2. Fellowship in His suffering

VI. Call do let go
John 21:18

1. Changed identity by the presence of the One

“The greatness of a man's power is the measure of his surrender.”

William Booth

VII. Conclusion

“...we will stand amazed to see the topside of the tapestry and how God beautifully embroidered each circumstance into a pattern for our good and His glory.”

Joni Eareckson Tada

Suggested Readings:

Nouwen, Henri, Discernment, New York: Harper One, 2013.

Thompson, Curt M.D., Anatomy of the Soul, Carrolton: Tyndale Momentum, 2010.

Shirer, Priscilla, Fervent, Nashville: B&H Publishing Group, 2015.

George, Elizabeth, Loving God with All Your Mind, Eugene: Harvest House Publishers, 2005.

Thompson, Marjorie J., Soul feast, Louisville: WJK Press, 2005.