

## Training Module Worksheet

### Session 6

#### Growing from a Declining Place

As a team or on your own, consider this question. “Why is our ministry to women declining?” This is a safe place to be honest.

#### **Barriers Affecting Ministry to Women**

##### Women’s Ministry: Lack of Vision

- Lack of spiritual vision, intentional planning and leadership development.
- Real spiritual needs are not being identified and met.
- Overemphasis on one aspect of the ministry, resulting in ministry that is out of balance.
- Only a few women are involved in the planning process, resulting in a lack of ownership by all women. Often it is the same few women.

Question to consider: Is there a lack of vision that the women’s ministry team needs to own?  
Journal your thoughts below.

##### Women in Your Church: Lack of Priorities

- Busy Schedules: placing roles and responsibilities before relationships.
- Lack of Focus: allowing distractions to pull them away from real life transformation.
- Compartmentalized Religion: misconception of “doing”, having a checklist mentality.
- Lack of Depth: comfortable with staying in surface level relationships, content with status quo.

Question to consider: Is there a lack of priorities that the women of the church need to own?  
Journal your thoughts below.

### Step 1: Pray for \_\_\_\_\_

- Pray for:
  - Spiritual awakening
  - Repentance of Sin
  - God-given desire to for God
  - Fresh ideas

### Step 2: Evaluate the \_\_\_\_\_

- Are there women of varying ages?
  
- Are there women with varying spiritual gifts?
  
- Who are the new leaders that can provide fresh ideas?
  
- Who are the existing leaders that can provide wisdom and continuity?

### Step 3: Update the \_\_\_\_\_

- What is your current Purpose Statement? (write it here)
  
- What elements of the purpose statement need to remain the same?
  
- Does the purpose statement need to change in order to align with the purpose of the church?

#### Step 4: Evaluate the \_\_\_\_\_

- Ask these questions about each event/aspect of your ministry:
  - What have we been doing over the last two years?
  - Why have we been doing it?
  - What spiritual fruit was produced during this time?
  - Did these events/aspects of ministry connect to our purpose and accomplish the goals of *Worship, Grow, Connect, Serve & Share*?
  - What will it take to go to the next level in terms of spiritual outcomes and more women being reached via these events and aspects of ministry?

#### Step 5: Continue Areas of \_\_\_\_\_

- What areas of ministry need to continue?
- What areas of ministry need to be removed?

## Step 6: Create Areas of \_\_\_\_\_

- The *Worship, Grow, Connect, Serve & Share* model is designed to help your ministry grow. During the evaluation process, you identified areas that are missing or unhealthy. What new opportunities do you need to create to address these gaps?

## Step 7: Be \_\_\_\_\_ for the \_\_\_\_\_

- If you are feeling overwhelmed, take heart! God has placed you and the other leaders in your church in a place of influence for a reason. The success of the ministry is not dependent on you. God is going to work in and through you for His glory!
- Your church may be on the brink of revival. Do not be afraid to step out in faith. God has called you to this place for “For such a time as this!”

## Conclusion: Keys to Continued Healthy Growth

- **Involve Others:** The more people you involve, the more ownership your women will have in the process. Surround yourself with a team of gifted women.
- **Seek Input:** Ask specific questions to help determine the needs, how to meet the needs, ideas for the future, and strategies for growth.
- **Be Creative:** Find new ways to reach women. The phrase, “We have never done it that way before” is not helpful in the process.
- **Dream Big:** Do not allow past successes or failures to influence you. It is a new day!
- **Celebrate Victories:** God is going to move in a mighty way. Be ready to celebrate all the ways that God is at work!

