

IMPACT GROUPS

January 2012

Women Need Each Other!

For years it seems that I have continually heard other women say things like..."I don't like women. I would much rather hang out with the guys – there's no drama with them," or, "Women don't really like me. I can't seem to find connection with other women." This saddens and angers me because the enemy has done a good job of bringing division between females that need each other. There, I said it...women need each other!

- Has there been a time in your life when you disliked other women or felt that you didn't connect with them?

As believers, the Lord has commands us to **"Go and make disciples and teach them"** (Matthew 28:19-20). God **wants** to use His daughters to bless and teach one another. Let's face it: there are just some things that men "don't get" about us as women. For the most part, men and women don't really communicate the same way, so we need other women to speak into our lives and bring truth and encouragement. Because of sin and the breakdown of families, and the lies of the enemy, we have several generations of women that are motherless and fatherless. Many have turned to the things of the world to fill them spiritually, emotionally and physically and now find themselves broken and hurting. We need the insight and nurturing of other women.

So, what should discipleship look like for women? Most of us don't consider ourselves a "mentor" and are happy if we can just get dinner on the table in the evening. In the book **Nurture** by Lisa Bevere, she mentions that God designed women with the ability to nurture others. She writes:

"The daughters of God so desperately need to give and receive tender care, protection, and encouragement. There is such a resonance in my spirit that this is in fact our season to grow, develop, and thrive. You see, regardless of our ages we are all still God's daughters and therefore children of His Kingdom. Women – daughters and mothers – of all ages need to awaken and recover their capacity to nurture just as mothers and daughters of all ages need to be strategically positioned to both receive and transfer this indelible life force."

Did you catch that? We should position ourselves to both receive and transfer...it works both ways. We are so blessed to be able to do that in our Life Groups. We shouldn't look at our group leaders to only pour into us, but we should also open ourselves up to provide care, insight, protection and encouragement to one another.

- Does the word "disciple" or "mentor" make you uncomfortable? If so, why?
- Can you relate to the idea of nurture: to encourage someone to grow, develop, thrive and be successful?
- Do you feel that you have positioned yourself to both receive and transfer life?
- How do you want your group to pray for you?

"We are heartsick and in need of intimate, safe connections so we can in turn heal and help others." Lisa Bevere