

# Small-Group Facilitator Guide

Make copies of these instructions and give one to each facilitator at the training meeting.

Thank you for agreeing to serve as a small-group facilitator for *Loving Well*. The small groups will allow participating women to talk about and process some of the content of Beth Moore's teaching. You will not be expected to have all the answers or to teach the material. Rather, you will lead the group to share how the Holy Spirit has spoken to them through the study.

Small-group time is an opportunity for women to share with one another and reflect on what they heard in the video. A good facilitator will ask questions that help women to open up and participate in the discussion. Please don't force anyone to speak. When you ask questions, don't call on anyone. Just ask the question, answer it yourself, and then give participants an opportunity to contribute. When the conversation has died down, move on to the next question.

Encourage your small group to write notes of affirmation to one another. Help create a loving and warm atmosphere. Your vulnerability and willingness to share your struggles on the subject of loving well will help your group open up and share. Make sure to be a good listener as women speak from their hearts.

Allow time for participants to get to know one another. Note during the video sessions questions you want to ask in small group. Often the best way to begin is with a general question: "What did Beth say that spoke to you or made an impact on your life?" Often the group will take the lead and discuss the session with little or no guidance from the facilitator. Don't be afraid to allow members to share how God has been speaking to them through the sessions.

Your job as the facilitator will be to keep the discussion on track and see that everyone has an opportunity to share if she desires to do so.

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If one member dominates the discussion, you may need to redirect the discussion. Thank the person who has been speaking and ask if anything particularly spoke to other members of the group.

As facilitator, you will need to see that the group ends on time. Close the discussion time with prayer. Pray specifically for each person in your group. If you have a woman in your group who surfaces a problem that calls for a counselor or other level of care, take her to a trusted friend, church staff member, or contact your pastor.

If you need some discussion starters, select from the following questions those that fit your group.


1. Who are you most like, your dad or your mom? What personality traits did you get from them?
2. Ask participants to share how loved they felt growing up. Did your homes abound with love or were they anything but loving?
3. How did that affect how you love others today?
4. Do you find it easy to love others?
5. Is it difficult for you to accept God's unconditional love? Why?
6. What four types of people are we are going to discuss this weekend?  
(Joy, Testy, Foe, Far)
7. What are the four confessions we are going to memorize to help us learn to love well?
  - a. God is perfect love.
  - b. Nothing can separate me from God's perfect love.
  - c. God pours His perfect love into my imperfect heart.
  - d. Accessed, I can love anyone through anything.
8. What does God's perfect love mean to you?
9. How does fear prohibit us from experiencing God's love?
10. Ask participants to raise their hand if they battle insecurity. Point out how common it is for all of us. How do we deal with it?
11. Discuss the questions and statements from week 2, day 5 of the journal.  
Ask group members to share which spoke to them most.
  - (1) Do you realize that I came to meet with you?
  - (2) Do you have any idea how much I love you? How taken I am with you?

- (3) Do you know that I have never forsaken you nor will I ever reject you? I was there all along. I always will be.
- (4) Do you realize I knew everything about you the day you were conceived? I anticipated your life and planned for it.
- (5) You do have an enemy, My Child. But it is not Me. He wants you to think it is.
- (6) I am for you.
- (7) Do you think you need to prove yourself lovable to Me? Deep down inside, are you trying to earn My love and attention?
- (8) As you strive to love Me more, do you realize the key to loving Me more is to let Me love you more?
- (9) Why are you resisting Me? Why are you running from Me?
- (10) To whom have you compared Me, and with whom have you confused Me?
- (11) I'm not like them.
- (12) I know what's happened. I know what's on your mind.
- (13) I alone know the plan for how this turns out well. I alone know how to prosper you through this.
- (14) My eyes and My affections are on you right now.
- (15) Quit trying to be so strong. Let Me be strong for you.
- (16) I love you unashamedly. Even now My banner flies over you. Everyone in the heavenlies knows how I feel about you. I'd leave you red-faced over My love for you ... if you'd let Me.

Close with sentence prayers. Ask group members to participate.

### IF THE STUDY IS USED IN A RETREAT WEEKEND:

1. Ask group members to share what they have learned this weekend about relationships.
2. Without mentioning names, have you been convicted about relationships in your life and how you need to restore them?
3. Has God spoken to you about your being Testy or Foe to someone else? What do you need to do?

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4. Spend time praying for one another to have the courage to do what needs to be done to restore any broken relationships.

Give out envelopes with *Loving Well* Love Notes in them. Encourage ladies not to open them until they get home and find a quiet time to read through the notes and be encouraged. They can keep these notes as a reminder of what God did this weekend.