

Red Hot Faith Discussion Questions for Bonus Video Testimonies

Week 4 — In Need of Nothing with Jennifer Wynn Stoll

1. In her story, Jennifer Wynn Stoll makes some significant points that many other women can relate to:

- Jennifer discovered if you own a lot of things, they can end up owning you.
- At the same time that Jennifer was losing material things, God was leading her to a closeness with Him that she had never before enjoyed.
- Although Jennifer had known in her heart from the time she was a little girl the Lord was real, she had drifted away from Him. Then, in a moment of brokenness, she threw up her hands and said to God, “Whatever it takes. Take everything. But I want to know You.”
- Jennifer used to judge her life on measurements such as whether she had money in the bank, if her family was happy, or if her friends were pleased with her. But she eventually realized she was spiritually bankrupt. Now she measures her life by her closeness with the Lord and her submission to Him.

Which of these situations or experiences can you identify with the most? Share your experience as you feel comfortable.

2. Reflect on what you have learned about the church in Laodicea. Compare how Jennifer’s life was similar and/or different to the lives of the people in the Laodicean church.

3. Discuss the two turning points in Jennifer’s life. Can you relate? When have you experienced something similar?

4. How does Jennifer measure happiness in her life now?

5. Read John 15:5. How does one obtain this fruit in his or her life? How can you apply this Truth to your life today?

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Week 5 — Testing Times with Gwendolyn Briley Strand

1. What stood out to you from Gwendolyn's story? In what way can you relate including, perhaps, the way she was forced to depend on God rather than on her family or friends?
2. In what specific ways did Gwendolyn feel alone in her trials?
3. What was significant about the turning point that came to Gwendolyn in her tears?
4. How did Gwendolyn's perspective about her situation help her to grow and mature?
5. How was God able to use Gwendolyn to be His witness while in she was in "the fire"? Was there purpose in the midst of her pain?
6. Is there someone you know who ministered to you at a painful time in his or her life? How did it affect your view of God?

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Week 6 — White Clothes to Wear with Marilyn Hontz

1. Marilyn Hontz shares some significant points about her journey, and the impact of shame.

- Marilyn believed certain things about herself—such as “I’m inadequate” or “I’m not good enough”—without realizing those beliefs indicated that shame was inside of her.
- Marilyn found it hard to receive a compliment after speaking at a Christian conference. After saying “Thank you,” she looked down and added, “But it was nothing.”
- Growing up, when Marilyn’s parents were away, a guest in their home sexually abused her. She never told anyone.
- Years later, Marilyn grew tired of keeping her painful memories hidden inside her. She felt powerless.

What stood out to you most from Marilyn’s story?

2. Describe Marilyn’s interaction with God as she began looking at her painful memories. How did God bring her comfort?

3. Do you relate to any of Marilyn’s personal struggles with shame? Are there other ways in which you have experienced shame?

4. Have you or someone you know experienced freedom from poisonous shame? Describe the difference in his/her life.

5. Is there an area of your life that you would like prayer for where you are experiencing share? Share as you feel comfortable.

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Week 7 — Receiving Sight with Mary Beth Chapman

The Chapmans have six children, including Maria. The flower Maria drew had six petals with one colored in. This flower, along with the word “See” on the back of the page, was astonishing.

1. What stood out to you from Mary Beth Chapman’s story?
2. How did the family “see God” when they found Maria’s picture?
3. What fresh insights do you discover about God through Mary Beth’s journey?
4. How have you, like Mary Beth and her family, been able to see God in the midst of tragedy?
5. Spend time praying for one another for the ability to see God in the midst of hard times.