

## Serving the Lord . . . with Her?

When you consider the theme of our retreat, “Mutual Ministry—Serving the Lord Together,” what kind of thoughts run through your mind? \_\_\_\_\_

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The concept behind “mutual ministry” implies a service which I am doing along with or along side of one or more people. Thus, “mutual ministry” will bring two or more people together into a common task which provides a service to someone else.

1. Read Matthew 18:20. What does Jesus say about His people being together in one place? \_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_
2. In Scripture the Holy Spirit compares our mutual ministry to the functioning of our bodies. What does Paul say in 1 Corinthians 12:4-6 about our ministry together as he begins this body analogy? \_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_
3. So . . . at various times we strive to do activities of service together. What kinds of challenges have you faced when striving to do **mutual** service with your fellow sisters in Christ? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Could it be that these challenges which we face doing mutual ministry to serve the Lord has caused us to desire, beg, plead and cry out for all kinds of “training” programs throughout the years? Even in LWML? The theme verse of our retreat is Hebrews 10:24. Seems like it fits a lot of the times with the challenges we face doing mutual ministry: *let us consider how to stir up!* Guess we do a pretty good job many times “stirring up” people (or getting “stirred up”) when we serve with them, huh? Oh . . . I guess that’s not what its referring to is it? We are supposed consider ways to *stir up one another to love and good works*, not anger and inadequacy! Now that’s a different story!!  
  
Maybe such challenges have produced an awareness of the need for “mentoring.” When you hear the word “mentor” what thoughts come to your mind? \_\_\_\_\_  
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5. Scripture reveals the “mentoring” concept, especially in the relationship between Paul and Timothy. Read Titus 2:3-5. Does this passage say anything about the

concept of mentoring? \_\_\_\_\_

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6. Even Christian mentoring provides its own challenges for us sinners. Read 1 Corinthians 12:7. The Holy Spirit gifts us all uniquely and differently. What purpose does such giftedness serve? \_\_\_\_\_

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7. In light of the Holy Spirit gifting us differently for the purpose of serving Jesus by serving others, what guidance can the following Bible passages give us as we do mutual ministry?

Proverbs 16:18 → \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Mark 10:42-45 → \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

John 13:1-16 → \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Ephesians 4:32 → \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Doing mutual ministry, serving the Lord together, will always be a challenge for us sinners. Many times you may wonder why you have to serve “with her!” After all, she doesn’t do it “right!” Yet, she may be thinking the exact same thing about you. Thus, no matter how much “training” we go through, no matter what our various gifts, talents and abilities, we cannot simply depend upon the example of Jesus to carry us through. **We depend upon the expiation rather than the example of Jesus!** He carried through as our servant so that our sins, which hinder our mutual ministry, would be completely forgiven!! In that complete, unconditional forgiveness in Christ we can move forward in mutual ministry, humbly serving the Lord together with this song as our prayer:

*Make Me a Servant*

Make me a servant, Humble and meek,  
Lord, let me lift up, Those who are weak,  
And may the prayer of my heart always be . . .  
Make me a servant, Make me a servant,  
Make me a servant today.

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