

Iron Rose Sister Ministries Newsletter

Spring 2020

Volume 8, Issue 1



Good News to Share!

- COVID-19 does not stop God's work in and through us to equip and encourage women
- Conway County Ladies' Day in Morrilton, AR, a blessing and an inspiration to encourage other women

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Video Series: Victorious & Joyful in Battle



You can watch the videos on:



Iron Rose Sister Ministries



www.IronRoseSister.com



Iron Rose Sister Ministries: IRSM Videos



and what God promises through these difficult times.

There is hope! We are promised joy and victory, even in the midst of the battle. Yet, it may not look like we would like. **We are called to trust in the name of the LORD our God.** And when we do, we can celebrate with victory banners the great things He has done through His powerful right hand.

Victorious and Joyful in Battle
Psalm 20

Michelle J. Goff, Iron Rose Sister Ministries

There are many ways to **make use of this resource:**

Each verse of Psalm 20 has been broken down and is taught through this **nine-video series:** Victorious & Joyful in Battle.

Already the most solicited topic for 2020, we all recognize the need to address the battles we are facing, how we are handling them,

1) Watch the videos individually, then gather virtually with a small group of women to discuss what you have learned.

You don't have to be in the same place!

2) Share with someone who is going through a difficult time, esp. someone who might be feeling isolated.

3) Share your victory banner and tag us: #victorybanner #psalm20 #IronRoseSister

COVID-19 Adjustments; Strengthening of our Vision

Our inboxes are inundated with COVID-19 updates from airlines, businesses, and other organizations.

In brief, we want to let you know what has changed and what has not changed for us in light of the Coronavirus.

What has changed:

- Cancelled or postponed face-to-face events
- International travel is even more limited

What has NOT changed:

- Our commitment to encourage and equip women in English, Spanish, and bilingual

contexts across the Americas

- The resources we offer that equip women to connect to God and one another more deeply
- Our need for your prayers and support. These are uncertain times, especially for small nonprofits like us.

What has been adjusted:

- Face-to-face visits and events truly make a difference! We are all recognizing the value of connection. Many of these have been moved to a digital format.

- New video series and other online resources made available.

Since our entire vision is to empower women to equip other women in their walks with God and one another, the multiplication model of Iron Rose Sister Ministries continues!

Relationships continue with women we encourage and equip in places like Cuba, Venezuela, Nebraska, Idaho, and here in Arkansas.

Thank you for sharing the impact being made in your communities as we equip and encourage one another!



Ask us about how to do a bilingual study. All books also available in Spanish!

“Thank you again. I will be re-watching these videos to help the message sink into my brain.” ~sister in Louisiana



Women sign up for more information in Morrilton, AR

One Single Reason: Conversations with Single Women

Single & Single-again Women

More than ever, the solo members in our congregations are longing to be heard, seen, understood, and reached out to.

Please join us in prayer for this book and this project. Surveys have been answered, interviews have been conducted, and data has been collected.

However, COVID-19 has reprioritized some of our current projects and therefore Michelle has been unable to progress on the writing of this book as much as she would like.

A release later this year may or not be feasible, but the conversation is extremely relevant for these times.

Here is a **teaser from the back cover:** *A single woman herself, Michelle invites us to celebrate the integral part single women play in the body of Christ. With God at the head of the table, we will seek wisdom and examples from His Word to guide us. Pull up a chair and join in the conversation!*



Research Partners Rachel Baker (Searcy, AR) and Lilliana Henríquez (Bogotá, Colombia) visit in December

Bible Study Small Groups Move Online

Everyone’s screen time has been extended as we find ways to creatively stay connected.

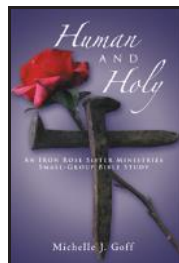
The Wednesday night ladies’ Bible study at Downtown in Searcy, AR, has moved to Zoom, as have many studies across the world. A large percentage of the women in that study are single-again and are very appreciative of the fellowship and Bible study time with Christian sisters while feeling isolated.

Other women have **joined a new Bible study group online** since the Coronavirus has made physical distance across town no different than physical distance, even across time zones!

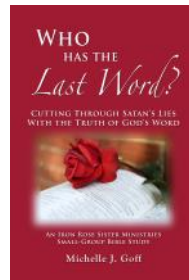
Contact us if you would like more information about joining a **virtual small group discussion** of one of our interactive Bible studies.

And if you are already in one, we would love to hear from you!

Interactive Bible Study Materials (details on website)

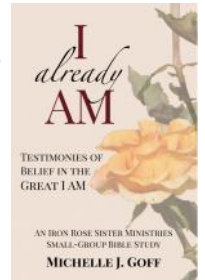


Human AND Holy
13-week study about Jesus’ life



Who Has the Last Word? Cutting through Satan’s Lies in the Truth of God’s Word

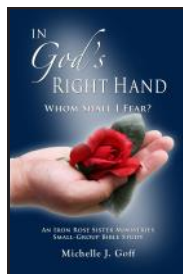
13-week study



I already AM
TESTIMONIES OF BELIEF IN THE GREAT I AM

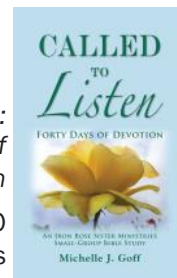
I already AM: Testimonies of Belief in the Great I AM

13-week study



In God’s Right Hand: Whom Shall I Fear?

6-week study about God’s character



Called to Listen: Forty Days of Devotion
6-week study; 40 listening exercises

Conway County Ladies' Day: Victorious & Joyful in Battle (Morrilton, AR)

Selected long before the Corona-virus brought its own challenges, the hosts for the Conway County Ladies' Day chose the theme of "Victorious & Joyful in Battle."

One hundred and twenty or so women from 13 congregations affirmed their hunger for this **hope-filled message that fortified our**

roots of faith and celebrated the victory we can have, even in the midst of the battle.

The truth of God's Word is always timely, but women appreciated the direct and open discussion about the difficult battles we face, including depression, and how we can support one another through them.



Small Groups gather around the building



Event turns bilingual for Hispanic sister and visitor, plus a small group in Spanish!

Leaderettes practice song-leading for worship



IRSM Vision:
Equipping women to connect to God and one another more deeply in English, Spanish, and bilingual contexts across the Americas

Tentative 2020 Calendar and Plans

Conferences with Booth

July 16-19, Equip/Equipar, Orlando, FL

Sept. 27-30, Harding Lectureships, Searcy, AR

International Trips

Honduras, ~~March~~, tentatively rescheduled for August

Cuba, August

Upcoming Events

July 15-17, Int'l Women's Conf, Abilene, TX (Spanish)

Aug 28-30, Caldwell, ID

Sept. 11-13, Team Meeting

Sept 27-30, Singles Class at Harding Lectureship

Oct 16-18, Waterloo, Canada (bilingual)

Oct 24, Little Rock, AR (bilingual)

Nov 7-9, Dallas/Ft. Worth, TX (bilingual)

Nov 14, Lufkin, TX (bilingual)

All in-person event plans are tentative as we continue to monitor the best course of action for travel, safety, and health.

Online Resources: Blog, audio, video, and more



IronRoseSister.com | Resources

While practicing social distancing, some people have more responsibilities on their plate while others have extra time on their hands.

No matter which category you fall into, **we invite you to take advantage of our many online resources:** Weekly blog in English (MWF in Spanish) that can arrive in

your inbox, audio of lessons at past events, and video recordings of classes from past events.

If you are one of those with extra time and have experience with podcasts, we would love to make many of our audio resources available in that format! **Contact us to volunteer!**



Michelle J. Goff teaching at Conway County Ladies' Day



Tax-deductible contributions:

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For online contributions:

www.IronRoseSister.com

Advisory eldership:

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Searcy, Arkansas

Contact us:

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ironrosesister@gmail.com

Ways to Contribute



Prayers: Our prayer warriors are our biggest advocates! 2 Cor. 1:11



Financially: Checks, ACH (monthly direct withdrawal; forms online), PayPal (online), Amazon Smile (IRSM as charity of choice)



Time and Talents: Contact us about getting involved by spreading the word, starting a small-group Bible study, planning an event, volunteering, and other opportunities.



All financial donations are tax-deductible.

www.IronRoseSister.com



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A note from Michelle: When it's not all roses...



I am often asked where I get such energy, especially when I am speaking. When asked if I move around when I teach, I laugh and politely request a cordless mike.

When my niece moves her entire body to make arepas (a Venezuelan food), and I ask my sister if I really taught her to move so dramatically. My sister gently replies, "Have you met yourself?"

No matter what the context of my exuberance, I have recently decided to answer, **"Joy is my middle name. I'm just trying to live that out and share some."**

However, the joy in my voice, the bounce in my step, and the spark in my eyes has been a little lacking over the past few weeks.

Personally, I have had a resurgence of some chronic health issues and the triggering of a few new ones. The phrase, **"The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak,"** comes to mind. If I am not careful, my frustrations with these challenges can steal my joy.

We are all in a period of adjustment. With plans changed, even cancelled, layers of uncertainty can cloud our thinking and frustrate our efforts to move forward and to navigate a "new normal."

Extroverts feel isolated. Planners wish they had written everything in pencil and now start every sentence with "Lord willing..." Grief is a part of everyone's current reality and we all manage it differently.

In the thorns and storms of life, may we "Be still and know that [He] is God" (Ps. 46:10). May we remember that "The joy of the Lord is our strength" (Neh. 8:10) not our own joy or our own strength.

Fear is rampant, but Truth is greater. God promises to turn our mourning into dancing and our sorrow into joy (Jer. 31:13). **When life is not all roses, the Divine Gardener is still in control.**

