

## Iron Rose Sister Ministries Bible Studies Format for Books Written by Michelle J. Goff

As with all Iron Rose Sister Ministries (IRSM) Bible Studies, these books are designed for a small group context. Even if it were possible for me to give you “all the answers” and share my perspective on the verses and concepts being presented, it cannot be emphasized enough the value of fellowship, discussion, and prayer with other Christian sisters! The format of IRSM Bible Studies allows for greater discussion, depth of insight, and sharing of unique perspectives. If you don’t follow the book exactly, that’s okay! You are invited to make the studies your own, to allow the Spirit to lead, and to **treat the studies as a guide and a resource, not a script.**

The IRSM Bible Studies also provide the opportunity for **spiritual journaling** on a personal level by making note of the date you complete each chapter and by adding notes in the margins, in addition to answering the questions.



The IRSM logo designation is used to highlight questions that lend themselves to good group discussion: ice breakers, questions for depth of insight or additional perspectives, and areas for growth and sharing.

### Recommendations for Iron Rose Sister Ministries Bible Studies:

- Allow an hour to an hour and a half meeting time weekly.
  - We’re women—we like to talk!
  - Prayer time
  - Depth of conversation and discussion
- Rotate facilitating the weekly discussion among EACH of the women.
  - Everyone can lead!
  - Everyone will grow!
  - Additional suggestions and recommendations are found in the “Facilitator’s Guide.”
- Commit to reading the chapter ahead of time.
  - The discussion will be richer and deeper if everyone comes prepared.
  - How much you put in will be directly proportional to how much you get out.
  - You will need to do these studies with your favorite Bible in hand.
  - All verses, unless otherwise noted, are quoted from the New International Version (NIV).
- Follow up with each other during the week.
  - Prayer
  - Encouragement
  - “Common Threads”

The “**Common Threads**” (pictured) allow you to chronicle your personal growth individually and in communion with your Iron Rose Sisters. Using the image of the rose and the IRSM logo, the **bloom** of the rose represents areas in which we want to grow or bloom. Through these studies, we can also identify **thorns** we’d like to work on removing or need help to remove. They may be thorns like Paul’s (2Co 12:7-10) or sins that must be thrown off (Heb 12:1). The final Common Thread is **iron**, in the form of a cross, which is best defined and facilitated in communion with other Christian sisters, Iron Rose Sisters.

## Common Threads in IRSM Studies



An area in which you want to *grow* or *bloom*



A thorn you’d like to *remove*



An area in which you’d like to *dig deeper* or need someone to *hold you accountable* (Pr 27:17)

### What Is an Iron Rose Sister?

An Iron Rose Sister is a Christian sister who serves as iron sharpening iron (Pr 27:17), encouraging and inspiring others to be as beautiful as a rose in spite of a few thorns.

### Purposes of Iron Rose Sister Relationships:

- Encouragement and inspiration
- Prayer
- Understanding and affirmation
- Confidentiality
- Spiritual audit (IRS = Iron Rose Sister)
- Mutual call to holy living
- Spiritual friendship and conversations