

BREAKOUT: PRAYER STATIONS (60 MINUTES)

PREPARATION:

- In advance of retreat, gather materials needed for stations described below—you are going to need a lot of Sharpies ☺.
- Create or print material indicated below.
- Set up prayer stations in different parts of the room or around the church.
- Print signs for stations.
- Gather needed items to make stations beautiful and inviting.
- Optional: Purchase or create prayer station mementos for each woman. (Memento graphics not included in this guide.)
- Recruit and train volunteers as to their assigned station and approach (sensitive and unobtrusive, following the Spirit's lead as to women's needs).
- Find soft worship music to play throughout the different rooms and in main meeting area.

PRAYER STATION SET-UP:

Below is a brief overview of the theme, suggested items, optional mementos, etc., for each prayer station. I suggest having volunteers man the different stations, being ready to pray with those who would like prayer. You might want to have a few “roamers” that have a badge saying: “I'd love to pray with you!” For more insight, look in the Retreat Journal for the individual prayer station instructions.

STATION: “SEND WORD TO JESUS” (PAGE 19)

Theme: Gives opportunity to present prayer requests to the Lord

Set-up: Create a type of “Wailing Wall” out of Styrofoam blocks, paper or a pile of stones with cracks available for participants to put in their rolled up requests. Provide small pieces of paper and pens. Optional Memento: Create verse magnet on business card stock. Laminate and put magnet on back.

Directions: Write out need, and place in or on wall.

Optional Memento: Philippians 4:7–8 verse magnet

STATION: “ROLL AWAY THE STONE” (PAGE 20)

Theme: An exercise to help recognize and roll away any spiritual blockages

Set-up: Cut three round 16” stones out of 2” Styrofoam. Place them on table against a wall. Behind stone, tape the corresponding declaration. Optional Memento: Baskets of small stones with corresponding words as follows:

1. Large stone: Unforgiveness / Declaration: I release my right to be offended / Small memento stone: Forgive
2. Large stone: Unworthiness / Declaration: I am chosen and dearly loved / Small memento stone: Beloved
3. Large stone: Unbelief / Declaration: I believe God is able / Small memento stone: Faith

Directions: Roll away the stone you struggle with. Declare written words.

Optional Memento: Small stone with corresponding word

STATION: "COME FORTH!" (PAGE 20)

Theme: Breaking strongholds and dethroning lies

Set-up: Several tables with about three plates of sand each. Optional memento: Create verse bookmarks of Galatians 5:1.

Directions: Participants walk through the steps listed on page 20 in Retreat Journal: Reveal, Repent, Renounce, Replace.

Optional Memento: Galatians 5:1 bookmark

STATION: "ACCEPT GOD'S LAVISH LOVE" (PAGE 22)

Theme: Experiencing God's love and His truth

Set-up: Depending on the size of your group, set up enough tables for 4–10 volunteers to sit behind. Provide lotion pumps and a list of verses on "God's Love" (see page 37 in this guide). Optional memento: Small lotions labeled with 1 John 1:3 verse you create.

Directions: Volunteer rubs lotion on woman's hand and talks about God's lavish love, prayerfully speaking other verses as she feels led. NOTE: Some women will want to apply lotion themselves. That's fine, say verses as she does.

Optional Memento: Sample-size lotion with 1 John 1:3 verse.

STATION: "UNWIND YOUR GRAVECLOTHES" (PAGE 22)

Theme: A chance to throw off anything that hinders our walk with God

Set-up: Create a free-standing wooden cross that can be draped with people's strips of graveclothes. Cut strips of lightweight cloth and provide Sharpie markers. Optional mementos: 1" white satin squares in a basket.

Directions: On a strip of cloth, write the thing that tends to trip you up most in your walk with God.

Optional Memento: White satin squares denotes robes of Christ's righteousness

STATION: "WHO I AM IN CHRIST" (PAGE 24)

Theme: Discovering our true identity—what God says, not what we think

Set-up: Set out 3"x3" mirror squares on table with Sharpies. Print out several sets of the expanded version of "Who I Am in Christ" (see pages 34–37 in this guide). Or consider writing them out on butcher paper to line the room.

Directions: In Retreat Journal, choose the statement that means the most to you. Write it on bottom third of tile, then write the corresponding verse on the back.

Optional Memento: Mirror tile

STATION: "SIT AT JESUS'S FEET" (PAGE 24)

Theme: The power of worship and God's presence

Set-up: Create a comfortable room with private spaces. Play soft worship music, but consider having mp3 players and earbuds for those who would like to worship privately.

Optional memento: Gather perfume samples from different stores. Create John 12:3 verse labels.

Directions: Following the example of Mary, participants will just hang with Jesus and lavish their love on Him.

Optional Memento: Perfume sample with John 12:3 verse.

STATION: "PICK UP YOUR CROSS"

Theme: Considering Jesus's sacrifice and the call to follow Him.

Set-up: Find or build a cross to place in center of room with plenty of space for people to sit around it. Arrange chairs around room's perimeter for those unable to sit on floor.

Optional memento: Purchase or make small wood crosses (check online retailers). Scatter around base of large cross.

Directions: As they look at the cross and consider Christ's sacrifice, they will be asked to count the cost, then pick up their cross and truly follow Him.

Optional Memento: Small wooden crosses

PRAYER STATION INTRODUCTION:

LEADER SCRIPT: For the next hour, we have a chance to get alone with the Lord. Here's what Joanna has to say about that...

From Joanna: I'm so excited about what I believe God is going to do in your hearts as you pray and interact with these Lazarus Awakening Prayer Stations. Jesus is waiting to be invited into every corner of your heart. Don't shrink back from that— for when you give Him access, He's going to bring light to every dark place. More importantly, He's going to bring life to the dead parts of your soul. It's time to roll away the stone, my friend! But don't worry—you don't have to do it alone. The Holy Spirit is going to walk with you every step of the way!

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- In the Retreat Journal, read the "Prayer Station Breakout" introductory paragraphs on page 19. Instruct them to use the directions given for each station.
- Explain where prayer stations are located.
- After they've visited all the stations, invite them to come back to the main meeting area and journal what God spoke to them during this time. Ask that they refrain from conversation in this area as well.
- Inform ladies what TIME to come back for the next session.
- Pray over the women and their time alone with God. Then dismiss them with these instructions:
 - “From this moment, please refrain from speaking.
This time is meant to be between you and God alone.
If you have an emergency, I will be at (LOCATION).
But until we come back together at (TIME), let's honor
the Lord and each other by giving reverence to this time.”
- Signal when it is time to return to the meeting room by walking through the building five minutes before ending time gently ringing a bell.