

## Growth Group Discussion Guide

*Go to [concorddallas.org](http://concorddallas.org) to join a growth group and learn more.*

**A Season of Hopes & Dreams** - Read Gen. 11:30-12:11-12, 20:2, 1. Many women desire to become a bride, to become a mother, to be a cherished daughter, to live prosperously and even to have a best friend. Those are admirable dreams, however, life takes a different turn sometimes. When it does, be encouraged to dust off your hopes and dare to dream again through God's eyes. Have you given up on your dreams? What dreams do you trust God for? What was the root of Sarah's doubt? What did Sarah do when she grew weary of waiting for God to fulfill His promise? What can we learn about God's timing and answers to prayer? How did God respond to Sarah who was barren and hopeless?

**A Season of Disappointment & Frustration** - Read Gen. 29:14-30. Leah had weak eyes and her beauty did not compare to that of her sister Rachel. Jacob, the man Leah loved, was in love with Rachel. Discuss why Leah's attempts to gain Jacob's affection were a waste of time. What happens to us when we get obsessive about something we want? Are you rejoicing in the unique gifts and talents with which God has equipped you? Has the envy of others ever hindered you from appreciating your own blessings and putting them to use? Pray for eyes to see yourself as God sees you in Jesus Christ.

**A Season of Choices** - Read Ruth 1-4. The story of Ruth is one of godly character. Our character decides the decisions we make in life. It was Ruth's character and commitment to what was right that dictated her thoughts and actions. One decision she made changed her whole destiny. How has personal decisions affected your life? Can you recall a decision that appeared to bring you hardship, but later in life resulted in a blessing? How did Ruth's decision to remain with her mother-in-law result in blessings/ good favor? Why should we remain committed to Christ?

**A Season of Learning** - Read Gen. 19:15-16, 26. Some lessons in life are learned from our mistakes; some pitfalls can be avoided by observing those that go before us; and some lessons are the result of obedience. What does it mean to be teachable? How did Lot's wife miss her opportunity? After the grace of God provided deliverance from destructive circumstances, why did Lot's wife look back? How do you learn? Do you learn through trial and error; by observing others; or through Biblical study in a growth group?

**A Season of Worth & Wisdom** - Read Proverbs 31. One of the most important virtues a woman should possess is wisdom. Prov. 31:26 "She opens her mouth in skillful and godly wisdom, and on her tongue is the law of kindness, giving counsel and instruction." Give an example of words of compassion. How have nagging words of judgment made you feel? How does your own sense of self-worth affect how you speak to and hear other people? How do we begin to have wisdom? We must first have "reverent fear and worship of the Lord", because that is the beginning of wisdom. How will you respond to James 1:5 which says that all we have to do is ask God for wisdom and He will give it to us liberally? What legacy of wisdom will you pass on to the next generation?

**Taking it home.** How will I live it? How will I apply it? Know that God is not through with you and begin to pray for His will in your life - You are a woman of worth, a woman of wisdom, a woman of the Word. WOW!

# VICTORIOUS SECRETS SERIES

*"The Seasons of a Woman's Life"*

- I. The secret to handling the seasons of my life is **CONTENTMENT**.
- II. **CONTENTMENT** is the ability to have a **SATISFACTION** with God's **PROVISION** for my place, position and possessions in life.
- III. **CONTENTMENT** is a **LEARNED LIFESTYLE**.
  - a. When I am **CONTENT**, I can trust God's **PLAN** (*Ps 139:13-16*)
  - b. When I am **CONTENT**, I can trust God's **PROVISION**.
  - c. When I am **CONTENT**, I can trust God's **PRESENCE**. (*Heb 13:5*)
  - d. When I have **CONTENTMENT**, I can have **PEACE**.
  - e. **When I have contentment, I can live for today not yesterday or tomorrow.**