

SESSION 4 | *January 28, 2025*

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

On the Potter's Wheel



with PATTY STUMP

The following pages contain information provided
by our speaker for your study and enrichment.

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On the Potter's Wheel

WEEK 4: *Strengthened by the Refiner's Fire* Session Guide

*"Shall what is formed say to the one who formed it, 'You did not make me'?
Can the pot say to the potter, 'You know nothing'?" – Isaiah 29:16, NIV*

Refined

R: _____

E: _____

F: _____

I: _____

N: _____

E: _____

D: _____

"I remember my affliction and my wandering, the bitterness and the gall. I well remember them, and my soul is downcast within me. Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

– Lamentations 3:19-23, NIV

The Potter knows what is best as He shapes, breaks, and makes us into vessels for His purposes.

"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze."

– Isaiah 43:2, NIV

On the Potter's Wheel

WEEK 4: *Strengthened by the Refiner's Fire* Growth Opportunity

*"Shall what is formed say to the one who formed it, 'You did not make me'?
Can the pot say to the potter, 'You know nothing'?" – Isaiah 29:16, NIV*

Day 1: There are times in our journey with God when we may 'feel' God has abandoned, dismissed, or forgotten us. These stretches may even occur during times when we have exercised faithfulness to God, yet find ourselves in difficult or barren places spiritually, emotionally, physically, relationally.

Today, we'll visit the Scripture we explored in session 4 — 1 Kings 19:9-18.

Elijah was a prophet appointed by God. He witnessed God's miraculous works and God's tender mercies. Yet, Elijah became weary, depressed, and lost his bearings. Gripped by fear, he fled.

1. What did God ask Elijah in verse 9? _____
2. How did Elijah respond in verse 10 (Where did he place his focus)? _____

3. What was God's response? _____

4. What characterized how God spoke? _____
5. What did God ask Elijah in verse 13? _____,
and how did Elijah respond? _____
6. In verse 15, how did God respond? _____

What does Lamentations 3:21-23 state? _____

How is this Truth evidenced in this portion of Scripture? _____
_____ God really does loves us!

Close your time of study by quietly fixing your focus on God. As you do, listen for His whisper to your heart.

Day 2: From this week's session and our day one Growth Opportunity, what stands out to you as being *essential* when trials, adversity, and the Refiner's fire occur in our lives?

1 Peter 1:6-7 (NIV) states: *“In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the **proven genuineness of your faith**—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.”* Now read this passage again, slowly and with consideration.

What is at the heart of God as He appoints/permits trials of various kinds? _____

From this passage, what can we glean is the desire of God’s heart? _____

Conclude your time in prayer, inviting God to help you see His refining fire as that which purifies and strengthens your faith. I don’t know what you may be encountering in this season of your spiritual journey, but as His heart for you becomes more evident, may praise, glory, and honor spill forth to Him.

Day 3: In session 4, we saw that Elijah had lost heart. God cared for him with physical nourishment and rest, giving Elijah time to regain strength before God called him forth. What was at the heart of God’s Words to Elijah in 1 Kings 19:15-18? _____

Write out Ephesians 2:10. _____

God has created us to long for ‘purpose,’ and He desires for us to look to Him for how He desires to work in and through us for Kingdom purposes. God didn’t force Elijah to embrace the assignment He placed before him; it was ultimately up to Elijah to decide how he would respond to God’s call upon his life. Remember 2 Corinthians 5:7 _____

In our walk of faith, a great deal rests upon how we handle Scripture and how we choose to respond to God’s call. As we gleaned from 1 Peter 1:6-7, the genuineness of our faith is most clearly evidenced as we are positioned in the Refiner’s fire. Why?

We have looked at James 1 in previous studies, and we’ll revisit it again as we wrap up today: James 1:2-4. What is God’s heartfelt pursuit as He positions us in the realities of trials and testing—His refining fire?

Close your time by reading Philippians 1:6. What is God’s promise to you? _____

Day 4: Today, pause in Psalm 42. Write out the nine questions that are noted in this Psalm:

Which of these questions have you experienced? _____

Now reread this Psalm of David, and carefully identify *essential* choices we can make that will impact our soul (our mind, heart, actions):

Is there is a place you've gotten stuck? If so, what does this passage of Scripture reveal to you as a 'choice' that could greatly impact your head, heart, and spiritual well-being?

Amen! May it be that as you apply the wisdom of Truth to your heart, hope abounds.

Day 5: Today is a praise day. As you reflect upon our session together and this week's Growth Opportunity, I hope you have gleaned insights and spiritual stirrings regarding how God's "*still small voice*" is speaking to you. Again, please don't rush through today's opportunity. We can easily miss what God is desiring to impart to our heart due to busyness, disinterest, hardness of heart, or lack of faith. Consider afresh Psalm 46:10: "*Be still and know that I am God.*" _____

"Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal." – 2 Corinthians 4:16-18, NIV