

# A Fascinating Woman: The Tongue

## By Sue Burnham

Sue Burnham:

I'm happy to be with you tonight. And we are going to begin studying The Fascinating Woman. We're going to be talking about The Fascinating Woman tonight and Wednesday night and Thursday night, and you're welcome welcome to come in this auditorium at 07:00. Tomorrow morning at 10:00, we'll be in the same auditorium, and we'll be talking about love, talking about passionate, romantic love. And since I announced that this morning there were some girls who said that that does happen on this campus.

So I was really excited about maybe it'll be a topic that will be acceptable. I wonder what comes to your mind when you think of a fascinating woman? Do you think of a temptress? Do you think of a strong, dominating woman? Do you think of a woman who doesn't need a man who comes to your mind when you think of a fascinating woman?

A few years ago back in Akron, Ohio, we had a course that we designed, and we called it The Fascinating Female. And it was a time when there was a rebirth of feminism and the Equal Rights Amendment was being talked about. And Christian women decided they wanted to get together, design their own course, to look in the Bible and see if we could find out what God wanted for us as women. We had learned something about what it was to be a woman from our own mothers or grandmothers, but we wanted to look for ourselves. It was like digging out for the first time, and we just had such a good time together, and it kept growing and multiplying.

And when the legislators from Columbus, which is our state Capitol in Ohio, came to Akron to talk about the Equal Rights Amendment, I was invited to be a panelist and talk about the biblical perspective of a woman. And it was fun when I went to the Morley Health Center because all the women who were studying Fascinating Female with me came on over to the Morley Health Center. And so everything I said, they clapped for and everybody else that was on the panel, they wondered what's going on here. They were so used to having the reporters were questioning, where did all these people come from? Why were those women clapping and cheering?

And it was because they'd had a part and an input in all the things that were talked about. The Equal Rights Amendment passed in Ohio, and you probably have followed along that if it's going to pass, it's got to pass this June and three more States have to ratify it. But no matter how you feel about that, it was a pleasure to study that particular course. It wasn't long after that when Moody Press said, we'd like to publish that study guide, The Fascinating Female. But Mrs. Burnham, there's one problem. That word female, it just has connotations for Christians. We wondered if we could disregard the word female. And I said, I don't care. That's just fine. Fascinating woman is just fine. But then they said, Mrs. Burnham, that word "fascinating." We were just wondering about that. Now some on the editorial board are saying that, well, maybe that isn't the right word.

Maybe you ought to call it the Christian woman or something like that. And so I said, you know, there's a reason for the word fascinating. I said, the word fascinating by the dictionary means someone who has some charm. I mean, you like, are drawn to a person and they sort of charm you. And you don't know why.

Because they've got some kind of a secret power. And I said, you know, that's what I think a Christian woman should be like as she is contrasted to the non-Christian woman. She should be that woman that has others attracted to her that she's like, she's got a charm. And you don't know why.

What is it about this woman that's so different? And of course, we believe if we are believers in Christ, that it's because the Holy Spirit is that power that works inside of us. And she becomes like, fascinating. What makes that woman tick, I wonder? And so after I explained it to him, he went back into the editorial board and he wrote a letter later and he said, it's okay, we're going to let you keep your title, The Fascinating Woman.

If I were to ask you tonight who you know, that is a fascinating woman, it would be very interesting what your comments would be. Some of you might say someone like Princess Diana, you might say Mrs. Sadat, you know, she was focused on recently when her husband died. I think she really handled herself beautifully, a woman that I'd never even noticed before. And all of a sudden she was focused in on.

I thought she appeared like someone that was fascinating. But if we were in a small group together where we could just talk and we went around and said, who's fascinating to you? Who's fascinating to you? I think probably you would say someone like your grandmother, your mother, maybe a school teacher, usually not someone who is even world renowned as much as someone that you've had contact with. And I'd say, well, what about them?

Why are they fascinating to you? You say it's not just their appearance or their intelligence or their abilities. I would guess that most of you would say they've got something inside. Its long, giving, a serving kind of a spirit, maybe enthusiasm, mostly, all the inner kind of qualities. Do you know that all of you, each of you can be fascinating women for Jesus Christ? I wanted to give you that little background before we talk about a specific of a fascinating woman tonight.

So we want to talk about a woman who is fascinating because of her speech. I think the Proverbs 31 woman is fascinating. And we read that she was a woman who, when she opened her mouth, she spoke with wisdom. And there was kindness on her tongue. You know, our tongue is really something.

When you read about it in James the third chapter, we know that our tongue, if we have it controlled, is a symbol of our maturity. If it's not controlled, it's a very dangerous. I guess I'd call it a weapon. And it actually can be directed from hell itself is what the Bible says. It can have such a discipline, or it can have such a beauty.

It has such strong contrast as possibilities. The Bible talks about it like a rudder is a little tiny something to a great big ship. Or like a bridle is to a horse. A little bit in the mouth of a greasy horse that can be guided by that bridle. And the same thing is true.

This little six inch organ of speech in our mouth, the Japanese used to say, could kill a person 6ft tall. Little teeny, but oh, does it ever have power and possibilities and potential? There's a story

that Ovid of Rome tells about a woman who was married to a man who wanted to share his secret with her.

And he said, no, I've got to tell you a secret. But I don't want you to tell anybody. So he lifted up his hair and he showed what was underneath. He had donkey ears. And then he put his hair back down.

And, you know, that didn't bother the woman too much. But he had donkey ears. But what killed her? Was that she couldn't tell anybody. She had a secret she couldn't tell.

She thought she was going to burst. And she walked around the house. And then she went out in the woods. And she wandered around the woods and thought, what am I going to do? I'm going to die.

I'm going to choke to death if I can't tell somebody the secret. If I came to a body of water, of course, you could see her reflection in that body of water. So she had somebody to tell. And she said, you know what? My husband has ears like a donkey.

And she felt wonderful because Ovid of Rome felt as he wrote his story that a woman just couldn't keep a secret. And that's the way many people feel about a woman. She just has to have the right to either gossip or say what she wants her to tell secrets.

She is not capable of controlling her tongue. I do know that gossip certainly is a part of a woman's tongue. She has to be concerned about. That gossip that happens on every level of life. Whether it's at the very highest. If you rose to the highest position in a corporation, you would be gossiping about somebody else in a corporation.

Or at least tempted to. If you are at a level where maybe you go and you're a cleaning woman, you are tempted to gossip. There is that desire inside of a human heart to take somebody else and lower them so that you can probably look a little bit better in your own eyes and other eyes of other people. There is that lashing out at others. The Bible says in the book of Proverbs that he that repeateth a matter breaketh a friendship.

You know that's true. Someone will tell you something in private and in confidence. And when you break it, you know that it also breaks that friendship. And oh, do you feel terrible. Takes the peace away in your own heart. You just wish you could go back and take that information that you shared with somebody else, take it back out of their mind.

But it's irreversible. It's been said and the damage has been done. I think for girls that the temptation usually comes when you're in a group. You've just gotten through maybe eating something together and there's maybe six or seven of you sitting around just talking and all of a sudden you remember something that somebody said or something that somebody did. And you think, I just got to tell it.

And so you tell it and all of a sudden you are a center of attention because you've got some new news to tell and everybody is, "really and tell me more" and you don't all know. And on and on it goes and you know, it's really fun while it's happening. But when it's over how you feel, you feel so disappointed with yourself and you've broken that friendship and it many times breaks it forever. It's a relationship that cannot go back and be trusted again. I have two daughters who have graduated from College.

One of them just graduated this year and the other one the year before. And when I was deciding about coming here to Biola and what to talk about, and I said, girls, write me up an outline of what you think I should talk about. And right at the top of the list was gossip. Maybe that was the colleges they went to in their lives. But I have a feeling that it might be right here also that God could work in our hearts to help us control that desire to gossip.

What about those that talk all the time? Have you ever been with anybody who is continually talking and maybe they take a breath and you try to say something, but as soon as they take another breath, they go right ahead. I mean, it is absolutely non stop and it isn't very pleasant to be with someone who never gives you a chance. Or if you start to say something, they interrupt you because they were just stopping to take a breath. And so if you start to talk, they got to interrupt because what they have to say is just so important is volumes of words.

I would have to say at the same point that in the mental health profession, you have heard that it is very good to tell the things that are going on on the inside of yourself. And so some people think that means tell everybody everything, and that's what they do. They maybe talk to 20

different people, and they tell every single detail of every thought they've ever had, every feeling they've ever had, and they think that that is good mental health. And you know what? I tell a client that has that as they're thinking.

I tell them what it says in Proverbs 29:11. It's a fool that utters all his heart and try to clarify to them that they don't have to tell everybody everything they can find. Maybe one person they want to reveal some of their thoughts and feelings to, but it doesn't have to be all those little tiny details. What about flattery? The Bible also talks about there was war in your heart, and their lips were smooth as butter because they wanted something from somebody.

They either wanted to side up with them a little bit, but inside, they didn't like them at all. And yet they were able to tell them flattering kind of thing. The same thing as telling a lie. Flattery. Boasting, interrupting, cursing God all those different ways when our tongue is not controlled.

A few years ago, my husband was in England, and he invited me to come over for a short time with him. And he was up in that beautiful North Umbria area where the story says, sir Lancelot stole the Queen from King Arthur. And I could see why a story would be made up about that because of the beautiful rolling Hills, castles there now that just makes you fall in love with the area. And you can just picture all the romance that would be a part of that North Umbria area there in Newcastle, England, is where I flew into.

And when [inaudible] there's a lady that I want you to talk to because she's got a problem, and I just can't figure out what it is. And that was amazing that he could say that. And I said, When I

met this girl, I said, Mary, honey, what's the matter? And she said, oh, Mrs. Burnham, she says, "I am such a nag." She said, "I want to be a good wife, but I just seem to be such a nag." And I said, oh, my goodness, a "nog."

And it took me about that long to figure it out. And I thought, oh, my goodness, you've got the same problem American women have. It sounded like "nog," but it really was a Nag when you talked about it in the American lingo. A nag, a nog. I told the ladies at lunch that my husband says that I'm a Nag anytime, that I repeat something more than once, I'll try to come at it from different angles. I'll think, oh, he didn't hear it the first time.

I'd better come around this way and tell him again. But he can tell that. And he says, that that's nagging. Well, we can do it whether we're married, whether you have a boyfriend, whether you're a mother, whether you're a friend by repeating things. Oh, not controlling our tongues. Nagging, cursing, interrupting, bragging.

What in the world is wrong with it? I just believe that all of this, that kind of talking is plugged into pride. Just plain old pride, wanting to lift ourselves up and to bring somebody else down. The first man and first woman that God created had their fellowship rooted in God. And if you remember the story, you remember that when they disobeyed God, how that their eyes were open and they looked at themselves and they knew that they were naked, and they hurried and they made big leaves and they put on and then they ran and hid in the bushes when they knew that God was going to come and fellowship with him in the cool of the evening.

And remember how God came? And he said, "Adam, where art thou?" God knew where he was. But he wanted Adam to answer. And Adam said, "we're hiding."

Amazing. The simplistic answer of Adam, "we're hiding." God says, "well, why are you hiding?" And he said, "because we're naked." "How did you know you were naked?"

"Well, you know, God. The woman gave me to eat God and God, you gave her to me." In other words, he didn't want to admit anything he did wrong. He would rather say, "God, it's your fault. Wife, it's her fault."

And when God turned to the woman and said to her, "why?" She said, "the serpent God." Amazing, isn't it, what our pride can do. Our pride wants to hide, to hide our weaknesses. We want to hide all of our sleep and wrap this great big protection around us. Nobody can get too close.

Nobody really knows what goes on on the inside. But outside here, we begin to point our finger at everybody and everything else. That's the reason why I do all of these things. Because of her. It wouldn't be for her, but wouldn't be for Biola, so it wouldn't be for that prof.

And on it, on it goes. It's so much more comfortable to hide and then to blame somebody else. And that's what we do when we lose control of our tongue. It's a way of blaming and pointing our finger at other people Instead of looking at ourselves and admitting our own wrong. But, you know, if we'll just put our pride aside, this was simple.

Just put our pride aside and humble ourselves and come to God, he can cleanse us and give us that joy again, and we can live with ourselves, that deep inner person that we are. We got all those protections for everybody to see and think that we're okay when we really aren't. I want to tell you a short story about a woman and a little bit about her problem with her talking, because this was the main problem Robin Goforth. Some of you maybe ran a little bit about her because she was born over 100 years ago, Robin Goforth had so much trouble with a fighting tongue, with impatience and a short temper. And she tells a little bit about her life that when she was a girl and she would do something wrong, her mother would make her sit on a chair and she would have to memorize Scripture according to the offense.

And it probably works pretty well. But she said she remembers mostly memorizing things about the tongue, if you can control your tongue, it's better than ruling a city. On and on she memorizes Scripture, but she continued to have trouble with it. She said when she hurtled somebody's arm in school that her mother made her memorize first Corinthians, the 13th chapter, the portion about love and what genuine love was. And then when she was eight, she remembers that it was a time in her life when she especially wanted to get out of work.

And she said that she tried to sneak off and run out the plane. Her mother bring her back in, sit in the chair and have her memorized Matthew, the 26th chapter that talks about talents, that we are responsible for, the talents we have, we need to develop them, and so on. Well, when she was eleven years old, she said that she went to a revival service. She'd never been to a Church service like this. And she heard about Jesus Christ and about being saved.

And she said she went home that night and all she could think about was that she wasn't safe. So whole thought was "oh, if I could just live until tomorrow, then I'll be able to go to that service and I'll be able to be saved" and, you know, she did live through the night. She went back to that meeting, she heard the gospel, she responded, and she gave her heart to Jesus Christ and she was saved and had a new power now to draw on. And she began to grow in a relationship than with Christ. And it was a little easier to have some control in her life.

She went on to College and she was a very outstanding art student. She and another girl were way ahead of everybody else in the field of art there in Canada. Her father had founded the Academy of Art there in Montreal, Canada, and there was a gold medal that was given out by the governor general for the one that was most outstanding out of College in the field of art. So she was going just these two were just going straight for that gold medal because their abilities were so unusual. They were way far ahead of everybody else.

And something happened to her because she got inflammatory rheumatism and she had to go to bed. She said it was like every joint in her body was on fire and she's so miserable. You know to lay there in the bed. Something happened. She realized for one thing she has to be out of the race to get that gold medal, and that's what she worked all through College for. But it wasn't long until that didn't matter because she took it at the time to prepare her own part.

And she said that she got hymnals to sing from. She got God's word to read from. She learned what it was to pray. One of the things she was saying is how sweet the name of Jesus is in a believer's ear. It heals his sorrows, heals his wounds, and drives away fear.

Those songs and the scripture went over and over in her heart. And that gold medal just went way down in its importance. Her artwork and her interest in art began to decrease. And her whole desire was to serve Jesus Christ. And she said to God, If I get out of this bed, I want to dedicate my life to you, and I want to be able to serve you in some kind of a full time opportunity.

Many people make that kind of a vow. But when it comes to fulfilling it and they get out of bed and they get on their own, they forget all about it. She didn't. As soon as she was out of bed, she went right down to the mission, the city mission in Montreal. And she began to work.

And she met somebody by the name of Jonathan Goforth. They both enjoyed working in that city mission. She continued to work there. But she went home one day and her mother said, Roslyn, you remember what your father said before he died, that he wanted you to go to England and study art? And she said, Roslyn, I want you right now to begin packing because you're going to England to study art.

And Rosalind said, Mother, I can do that. She said, I am going to marry Jonathan Goforth and we are going to go to China to be missionary. Now this made her mother really angry. But you can

see the frustration on her mother's part. There was a commitment that she had to the father who had died.

But you can see Roslyn's part, because as God had dealt with her heart there on that bed of illness. And she was committed to God. You know what she did? She talked to her mother. Her mother didn't really listen, and so she packed her things and she moved out of the house.

[inaudible] ...prepare to go to China.

She needed her mother's support. She didn't have her father. She needed her mother's support.

[inaudible]. It doesn't say this in the book but I wonder if she came across a verse [inaudible].

That we know how to answer every man.

That's in Colossians four. And you know, I believe that as she would think, what could I say to my mother? My heart is right before God, but what could I say to my mother and tell her that I'm staying. I've got to make this right. She went back home.

And her mother wouldn't talk to her. She went into her bedroom and locked the door. Robin followed her up the bedroom, she pounded on the door, and she said, "Mother, you've got to listen to what I have to say."

She said, "I've read In God's Word, and he spoken to my heart. And I can tell you this, mother, that God says, you have not chosen me, but I have chosen you to bear precious fruit." You know, it was quiet on the other side of the door. And then the mother unlocked the door and she said,

"Rosalind, I can fight you, but I can't fight God." You know they need grace, and she said, "Rosalind, I want you to go with my support [inaudible]." It was just eighteen months later that her mother [inaudible].

All the children gathered about the [inaudible]. Her Mother raised her arms and she said, Oh, Jesus forevermore. [inaudible]. And Rosalind went to China and began to teach Chinese women the word of God.

She tell that story about her mother and her mother's death, it was the favorite story of the Chinese women. They wanted to hear it over and over again. [inaudible]

They wanted to know that things were right in the relationship between Roslyn and her mother. I know some of you may be here tonight and things aren't right between you and your mom. And you need to have a right to have that deep peace in your heart. She went with her mother's blessing, her mother's encouragement and support, even though she's going to be with the Lord. It was a difficult time.

She said, the women, the Chinese women brought in their life and they stole from her. She said that they would take parts of her sewing machine and little pieces of material, just enough to make everything not work together so well. She said that her first baby died on the very day that her baby died, she was lying in the bed and she was very, of course, wounded emotionally and physically. And she could hear the Chinese women talking right outside her window because she said that the walls were just paper thin.

And she heard them say, you know, Rosalind Goforth is a wonderful Bible teacher. But she's got such a sharp tongue. She's so short tempered, she's so impatient. The same thing [inaudible] all of her life. It crushed her heart to hear it, but it was the truth.

They wouldn't have told her face to face, but it was the truth. And she began to cry out to God for victory in that area in her life. And she had experiences where these Chinese women would do things after she had children to hurt her children and many hurts that she had. And she said she took the verse that says, God's love constraineth me. I would have fought back if it wouldn't have been that God's love constraineth me.

He begins to work in her heart. Until there was that victory in her mature life over her tongue, over her impatience, over that short temper that she had. But then she entitled her book Climbing. There was something else that came up because that's the way the Christian life is. She felt like most all the things in her life that she had trouble with were okay.

But now there was somebody that came into her life and began to trouble her, and she wouldn't forgive this woman. I don't know who the woman was. And he never said in a book, but she could no longer she could no longer be loving to her husband. She no longer wanted to read God's Word. And she didn't want to pray because she had this bitterness in her heart against this one person.

People spoke to her and said, Rosalind, what's wrong with you? What's wrong with you, Rosalind? She wouldn't answer him, but she said she was on a train one day and she was going to meet her husband very low in spirit. And she said the Holy Spirit came and just very softly began to work on convicting her conscience. [inaudible]

And you know, that [inaudible] on and on until she had stopped and say, oh, God, forgive me and I forgive Mary Ellen. And oh, what a difference in life.

Why had she hung on to that for so long, being so angry with Mary Ellen? You know, the most wonderful part at the end of the book, she tells her life story is that the Chinese women at the end of her life all were begging to work for Rosalind Goforth because she was so kind and she was so gentle and she was so loving. You know, it is something when we can see that contrast of what God can do when we let Him, when we draw upon his power, he's the one that can help us control our peace and give us wisdom. I think we begin with Proverbs 17:3 for this is what it says. I have purpose that I shall not transgress with my tongue.

It's like a decision. I will not use my tongue to transgress. I will not use my tongue to gossip. It's a decision of the will to say, I am willing God to use my tongue in a way that will bring honor to you to be able to say what James says, to be Swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath. Do you desire that instead of talking, talking to be quick to hear? I have a client now that's in her late 20s and she came from a nationality that's kind of mid Eastern.

I won't say which country, but she said in her family there was the use of the tongue that was so sharp that everybody always yelled at each other. I mean, even when they were talking in a nice conversation, they were yelling and she said then they were always hurt. And she was always wondering what she had done wrong and when she was going to be lashed out at by her mother and father. And now she was a married woman and she was doing the same thing in relationship to her husband who was a very fine, professional, dignified, reserved man. And it was driving him crazy and it was driving her crazy.

She didn't want to do it, but she'd heard that pattern for so long. I have been with this client for some time and recently I asked her, what character in the Bible would you like to be like if you had a choice? And you know which one she chose? She chose Mary of Bethany. She said, I know it was Mary of Bethany that would sit at the seat of Jesus and would listen to him. She knew that Mary of Bethany listened so well that Mary of Bethany understood that Jesus was going to die and she prepared him for the burial a few nights before he died.

Because she listened, she wasn't so busy running and talking that she was able to hear what Jesus had to say. Who you want to be?

Can you decide to be that you want to be quick, Swift to hear and slow to speak and slow to get angry or if we could just listen. I know I was thinking about another client that I met about three years ago. She almost scared me because she was a very big woman. She must be 6ft and I don't know the weight. She's just a very big woman.

Real pretty, smooth skin and dark hair. But I remember when I sat down to talk to her and I said, "and why did you come?" And she said, "I don't know." And I said, "Is it something with your family?" "Maybe." "Could you tell me just a little bit more about some of your experiences of life?"

"No, I don't think so." And it was a whole session of just that, asking questions, polling. Now she wasn't listening. She just wasn't responding. I mean, it was just like pulling teeth.

It was like I was being punished because she was there. And I kept trying and trying. And she came back. I mean, she didn't even say anything until she came back. And she came back about three times until finally she started to say just a little bit.

And then I understood she was very afraid of all of her pronunciation. She didn't feel like she could talk clearly or pronounce. All her life, people had made fun of the way that she talked. And, you know, once she began to talk, she had a lot to say, and I could understand her very well. The amazing thing is once she got that resolved where she could talk to me, a stranger, and could trust me that I wasn't going to make fun of her, she began to pray.

She hadn't prayed in 20 years because she had everything so bottled up. She had all these misconceptions about God, and that if she couldn't say something to somebody else, how is she going to pray to God? Just by listening to her and getting some of her feelings first was a beginning in her being able to resolve some of her own problems. The Bible says if we can use our tongue to answer softly, a soft answer, turneth away wrath, greedy as words stir us up anger.

I thought when I first started teaching school that that was what you were supposed to do, is yell at the kid.

And so I've got a voice that is unbelievable, the volume on it. Teachers used to ask me to take a message to another teacher, and I go take the message. But the only thing is everybody in the room heard it because my voice was so loud. And so the teacher couldn't ask me to go take a message anymore. And I can remember that in a gymnasium that people would tell me the largest gymnasiums, they could hear my voice from here clear to the other end.

And it's taken a lifetime to try to learn how to be soft, because it's a soft answer that God's word says. Even breaketh a bone, it's got merit to be able to talk softly to have encouraging words. The Bible says, Pleasant words are as the honeycomb, sweet to the soul, health to the bones. If we can use our mouth also to share Jesus Christ with other people, do you find that easy to do? You know, when I was younger, it was easier than it is even now, I think, to be able to speak about Jesus Christ even to all of you.

You all are maybe supposed to be Christians because you're a part of Biola University, but, you know, to stand here and talk to all of you, I find it a humbling experience because you can see all my weaknesses when I stand here and talk to you. You can make all kinds of corrections on me while you're sitting there and I'm standing here. But more than anything, when I get in a certain group of people that are not Christians, I find it very difficult to speak up about Christ. And I'm finding it even more so. I can remember an occasion where I was with volunteers from the state mental hospital.

The other women that were volunteering there, and these women were really the upper crust women. They all had social positions. And I was thinking, now, what if they think I'm worthwhile? What if I could be a part of their little group? They were on another opposite end of town from what I was.

And one day the volunteers all got together at one of the prettiest homes in the Akron area been written up in the Beacon Journal. And I was really excited about going to that home and having lunch with those women. And that day when I was with them, a question was brought up about, I wonder what it means to be born again. I don't know why that came up, except everyone was talking about born again in those days. And I think it was in the Carter era, Jimmy Carter era.

And I said, oh, my goodness, what did they have to bring up that for? Because I knew I was responsible before God to do something about it. I couldn't just let it go. I was thrown right in my lap, and I listened to all of them, talked for a while, trying to get up my courage. And then finally I had to say, do you know the Bible says what it means to be born again?

And this is what it says. And Besides that, I believe in it. I believe I'm born again.

That's how I felt, and that's what happened. I mean, you could cut it with ice. I mean, you could cut it with a knife. I mean, it was really cold. One woman tried to help me out, and she was saying, well, ladies, what she really means is that born again is like when you go outside and you

see a flower for the first time when you're feeling bitter and you really see the flower today and you really see the sky.

And I said, Alice, that really isn't what I meant. That isn't really what the Bible is saying. And then the other lady said, wow, now you're just really revealing yourself today, aren't you? I mean, come on, tell us more. I bet you go to Sunday school every Sunday and everything.

I mean, that was an experience. There are other ladies. There were only, I think six of us there. But the other ones were just kind of embarrassed. There are times when we can get so uncomfortable and make other people uncomfortable.

But I felt I had to speak up about that topic because I wanted to be true to Jesus. And when I left that room and got in my car, oh, Lord, I feel awful. I feel so cut off. I feel so alone. But do you know that was some time ago?

But since that time, I've been able to talk to four of those women that were there that day individually. And I found that they have some deep needs in their lives. They want to know more about Jesus. Do you know Ephesians it says that we may speak boldly the mystery of the gospel do you know that the gospel is a mystery to many people today and that we might have the desire and the courage in our hearts to speak boldly the mystery of the gospel that we might use our tongues for that purpose to bring thanks to God to be able to edify and to build up? I pray that you desire to be that kind of fascinating woman that you'll open your mouth with wisdom. There will be kindness on your time. Shall we bow our heads in closing prayer? Dear God, I thank you

for each woman who's here tonight Lord I pray there will be a desire to be the fascinating woman that you want us to be that there is that secret power Because the Holy Spirit is at work when we've done him I pray that our words will bring honor to you that we might sing praises in our heart that we might do it faithfully and that we might know that peace that rained Lord, I prayed that [recording abruptly stops].