



The Interfaith
Peace Project

presents

The International Women's Day Study Guide



Waking Dream by Peggy
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The Interfaith Peace Project has been deeply involved in the pursuit of women's dignity, respect, and human rights. For the past ten years, we have sponsored programs, home-based seminars, retreats, and opportunities for women's voice to be heard and celebrated. In light of the violence and inhumanity that seems to be prevalent in our time, it is essential for us to hear the emerging voice of women throughout the World.

In every place, concerned with every issue, to the benefit of a humane humanity, women are speaking out and men are discovering their feminine potential. Despite the violence and chaos of the moment, we believe our time is a time of transition. The rise of women's voice signals the re-birth of humankind in terms of compassion, justice, and humanness. The Interfaith Peace Project calls upon all people to discover anew the transformative wisdom of the women in their lives who invited them to the fullness of life.

We are asking you to gather in small meetings with other women throughout the months of October 2014 to February 2015. You may use the questions provided in this booklet to foster and enhance your conversations. Or, you may decide to be more free-spirited. What matters most is hearing the voices, wisdom, and insights of very real women.

The structure, duration, and frequency of your meetings is strictly up to you. All we ask, if you have the time, is to inform us of your meetings and report some of the highlights of your experience with us. We will edit the results and post them on our website. If you would like to be personally credited please let us know. No personal addresses or contact information will be shared or publicly displayed unless you so desire.

We invite you to discern and celebrate the wisdom of the women you have encountered in your life. The rise of women's voice in our time is a turning point in human history. Women are not merely seeking their full human dignity as they challenge all peoples to a higher standard of life. They are revealing that humaneness is the essential definition of what it means to be human.

Structure for Your Conversation

With another person or in your gathering, discern and decide the frequency of your meetings and what topics you will consider. Claiming the credibility and dignity of your voice and wisdom is what matters most.

Meeting Place _____ Date(s) _____ Time _____

Possible Topics for Your Conversation

(For Women's Biographies to consider visit our website:
<http://www.interfaithpeaceproject.org/programs/iwd/>)

Self: Am I able to say no when necessary, to set firm and gentle boundaries? Do I believe my voice, my thoughts, and my wisdom are worthwhile? What is my experience of God? What is my response to hurting and impoverished women and children

My thoughts:

Family: What does marriage mean in today's world? What exactly are "family values"? What truly makes a family? Same sex marriage? How do I see myself, as a woman in the family? Is religion of any value? What are the pressures affecting family life? Abuse, addiction, divorce, poverty? What is the impact of social media?

My thoughts:



Community: What do I truly think about such issues as: environmental concerns, public education, voting rights restrictions, issues with police and public safety? Do racial issues impact me? Is there a human right to food, shelter, health care, clothing and security?

My thoughts:

Country: Do we have a responsibility in the World for the security and well-being of others? Is war ever justified? What constitutes “foreign relations” in our time? Are governmental programs (low income housing, food assistance, job training) part of the responsibility to care for the common good?

My thoughts:



Care of the Earth: Do we have a responsibility to care for the Earth? How do I understand environmental concerns and sustainability issues? What is the future of food: the GMO issue, processed products, equitable distribution?

My thoughts:

After you have had the opportunity to participate in these conversations, we would like to hear from you so that we can use our resources to make your voices heard! Please send us a summary of what you've learned about yourselves, ideas, breakthroughs, etc.

To contact us:

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Feedback Form:**