



INVITING WOMEN TO THE WEEKEND

Inviting women to the Weekend is important for having a full Weekend. When signing up to staff, you are also committing to actively recruit women to come. *EACH ONE, BRING ONE! START ASKING NOW. DON'T WAIT.* If each staff member gets one woman to come, we will have a full Weekend. Here are some tips for inviting women and the frequently asked questions from the website (www.womenatthecross.com) that will help guide you. It is important to remember that what happens on the Weekend is NOT a secret, and we are giving more information than we have in the past. Please do not give away any of the specifics related to the processes, but share how God met you there and anything about your experience.

Helpful Wording about the Weekend

“Women at the Cross is an intensive women’s experience where we look at what it means to live as women at the foot of the cross of Jesus Christ. The Weekend endeavors to help us as women identify how we might be creating barriers to be the women that God has called us to be – in our families, with our friends, and in the world. There are brief times of teaching, times spent in small groups, and opportunities to take a look at our own hearts before God and others. It’s a time to receive strong support from women and to support other women.”

Note: Feel free to talk about the content of the Weekend: False Self/True Self, taking a look at what might be covered up in our lives, living in freedom through Jesus’ power and healing, etc.)

Share Your Testimony

“I personally experienced an encounter with God’s love and acceptance that has impacted me greatly. It has freed me to be more open and honest with my family and friends. I have experienced more freedom in my relationship with God in ways that I had not known before. I discovered that I was carrying around things in my life that I was not aware of, things that hindered me from being the woman God has made me to be. And, for the things that I was aware of I discovered that God was always there for me to help me overcome difficult areas in my life. The support I received from other women was great. I was really blessed. It was great for me. Maybe it would be a good thing for you. Why don’t you check it out? www.womenatthecross.com”

Come up with your own story about how the Weekend impacted you. It is not helpful or necessary to say there are things that we cannot say about the Weekend. It makes sense to tell people that we don’t describe the Weekend in detail because it might diminish their own potential experience on the Weekend. There’s nothing to hide, there are just things to be discovered.

- Tell your story about your experience.
- Be connected to your heart. If it helps, before you share, take yourself back to your Weekend and connect to your own experience.
- Pray and then be bold! It’s great to say, “You should come to this Weekend!” (Especially if they have shared challenges that they are having that would fit with the Weekend content.)
- Trust God with the outcome. Pray and believe that He would give you at least ONE person to bring to the Weekend.
- If they say “no,” ask them again next time. We have had people come after being asked over eight times before! God’s timing is perfect, so keep asking!

Pastors are Great Resources

- Ask your Pastor or Women's Ministry Leader this question: "Do you know of a woman who could really use some encouragement from God right now? I am staffing an experiential women's Weekend, and it has really impacted my life." Give them a WATC brochure or your contact information and let them know you are available to answer any questions or connect with any woman who is interested.

Note: Things NOT to Say: "It's a secret." "I can't tell you about the Weekend." Give people the information above and most will be satisfied.

Below is the FAQ list from the website. Feel free to look this over to help you describe the Weekend.

FAQs

What is the Weekend about?

Women at the Cross is an opportunity for women to explore their own hearts before God and other women. There are a few short teachings focused on identifying key issues that can hinder us from living fully in Christ. There are small and large group times. It is an opportunity to receive strong support from others. We endeavor to create a safe and sacred space for women to take risks in their relationship with God.

A core teaching on the Weekend addresses our identity in Christ. In Ephesians 4:22-24, Paul instructs us to put off the old self, which belongs to our former way of life and to put on the new self, created in the likeness of God. On the Weekend, we become aware of the old, false ways of living and have opportunities to address them and their root causes. It is a time to step into God's love and power and make choices to live authentically before God and others.

While the Weekend is rooted in the Scripture, it is not a series of Bible teachings. We endeavor to create an environment where biblical knowledge and truth are experienced on the Weekend.

Who should go on the Weekend?

Our events are for anyone who wants to grow in maturity. Women bring all manner of issues and concerns to the Weekend. It could be a search for direction, growth in confidence, healthier relationships or to become more aware of how you show up in the world. It is also an opportunity for some to address fears, shame, anger and pains from the past or present. Whatever you bring is welcome.

If you want to know more of God's grace in any area of your life, we invite you to come and join us at the foot of the cross as we risk stepping into the current of God's grace.

Is the Weekend a secret?

No, it is not a secret. However, we do ask people who have attended to not share the details of the Weekend as the specific experiences and processes might not make sense out of context and it would ruin the experience for women who plan on coming. This Weekend isn't a secret to be hidden, it's a treasure to be discovered.

What can I expect when I arrive?

This is not the typical women's retreat where there are several talks, a lot of free time, and recreational

activities. The Weekend is carefully planned and structured. We are aware that you have just finished a long week at work and have been in traffic. You will notice when you arrive that it is our goal to help you transition from all that you left behind to shift to what you would like to have happen on the Weekend and to become aware of God's presence in your life. We encourage you to be praying about what you would like to address in your life on the Weekend.

We value eliminating distractions for you on the Weekend. You will be asked to not use cell phones or any other electronics on the Weekend. Emergency phone access is of course available. You will be contacted before the Weekend and given the emergency contact number.

What about meals, lodging, arrival and departure times?

Lodging is provided. There are six meals, Friday evening dinner, three on Saturday and two on Sunday. There is no lunch on Friday. Please eat before arriving.

The Weekend begins at 2 pm on Friday afternoon. Starting on time is important. We ask you to arrive on time. Take into account Friday traffic and plan your day accordingly. We cannot receive you any earlier than 1:30pm, and the Weekend ends by 3 pm on Sunday.

Given the nature of the Weekend, it is important that you attend the entire Weekend. The Weekend does not allow for late arrivals or early departures. If you cannot be present the entire Weekend please plan on coming at a time when you are able to do so.

Out of town attendees should contact us before making airline reservations to ensure appropriate arrival and departure times at the airport.

What do I need to bring to the Weekend?

Please bring toiletries, a water bottle, comfortable clothing and a comfortable pair of shoes. Bring a notebook and a pen. Also, bring your own bedding (Either a sleeping bag or sheets and blanket, pillow and towel). Out-of-town attendees can request bedding to be provided if necessary.

Is there follow-up after the Weekend?

After each Weekend, there is an 8-week follow-up group designed to help anchor the Weekend experience for you. After the 8 weeks, there are opportunities to continue to meet with other women who have been through the Weekend and grow together personally. The cost for these follow-up groups is included in the registration price.

We also offer other events for alumni of Women at the Cross. These experiences are designed to give deeper teaching and more tools to aid you in continuing to live out the lessons learned on the Weekends.

Is there any financial assistance available?

We offer up to \$100 scholarships (which includes the Early Bird Discount) and payment plans. If you would like to get more information about scholarships, please fill out the Request for Financial Assistance Form on the registration page.