

Women Mentoring Women

(video transcript)

By *Karen Spiegelberg*

Have you ever said something that left you shaking your head later? You say, “I can’t believe I said that!”

I’m Karen Spiegelberg. Welcome to A WORD for Women—a show by women and for women where we build each other up in our amazing and wonderful God-given roles in life.



So there you are, say, driving home from a Bible study, and you’re thinking about something you said, and how dumb you thought it was, and you’re hoping that no one will remember. You know—the question or comment you made that after it left your lips you wanted to slink down under the seat and wish you could just evaporate into thin air. I used to drive myself crazy thinking about this stuff until I realized that I don’t remember dumb stuff other people say, so why do I think that they remember any possible thing I say?

Then a couple years ago I was in a group conversation with some ladies after church, and with regard to what we were talking about, one of the younger women turned to me and said, “I remember something you said in a Bible study four years ago...”

Four years ago! I couldn’t even remember what I ate for lunch four days ago! And she was telling me she remembered something I said four years ago? Then a million possible scenarios started going through my mind—was it the time I said this...or the time I said that? Then she told me that the words I had expressed were words of encouragement that helped her get through some pretty tough issues over the last four years. I did a mental “high five” to the Holy Spirit on that one, and said, “Thanks Buddy because that was all your doing!”

It was then that the big “AHA” hit me. My husband and I had been in a 2-year intense through-the-entire-Bible study called “God’s Ways”, and one of the amazing things that the pastor said was that on our faith journey there’s always someone for us to look up to—you know—as a mentor, but to remember that there is also someone looking up to us. For women I think this is valuable advice—the concept of mentoring each other.

Titus 2:3-5 [NIV] specifically targets women’s relationships with one another. Paul encourages Titus, who was a young pastor, to seek out older, wiser women to teach and model Godliness to younger, less spiritually mature women in his congregation. We read in part, “...teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers or addicted to much wine, but to teach what is good. Then they can urge the younger women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home, to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no one will malign the word of God.”

I think more than ever we need mentors, and we need to be mentors—each of us wherever we are in our faith journey. I know I’ve had many mentors I’ve looked up to for solid examples for my family and faith life. Look to your own mentors to gain insight into looking for qualities in being a good mentor yourself to other women.

Some qualities to find might be, do they have a heart for God—like being in the WORD and being a good imitator of Christ? What experiences have they had in their lives? Maybe in how they raised their family, or how they dealt with

tough issues like death or illness? How they model the importance of faith in all situations? And as you look to your mentor, don't forget someone's looking up to you as their mentor, and on it goes.

Thank you for joining us on A WORD for Women.

Have a mentor and be a mentor! And if you don't remember anything I just said, remember the earlier words of Paul about mentoring, and the words of Psalm 119:130 which reads, "The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple." [NIV]

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