

AWARENESS.SKILLS.KNOWLEDGE.

Intergenerational Women's Ministry and Study of Women In the Bible

St. Matthew AME Church
Reverend Melvin E. Wilson, Pastor|Teacher
28 October 2023

This month provides an overview of how her

Spiritual Gifts

Personality (Presence/Perspective)

Experiences (Positions/Protection)

Cares/Passions

Interest

Abilities

Life Talents

contributes to her special God-given purpose; equipping her to **minister to all God's children.**

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“It seemed very hard, when his father fought to protect the Union and our flag, and yet his boy was denied, under this same flag, a berth to carry him home to die, because he was a negro.”
— Susan Baker King Taylor, Reminiscences of My Life in Camp with the 33d United States Colored Troops: Late 1st S. C. Volunteers (Born 1848, Dies 1912, Nurse)

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All Women of the Bible by Herbert Lockyer

Euodias: The Woman Who Fell Out With Her Friend Philippians 4:2; Acts 16:13-15; 17:12 (Page 55)

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AWARENESS

*"I [Paul] plead with Eudodia and I plead with Syntyche to agree with each other."
Philippians 4:2 (NIV)*

What We Know

- It is noted by the author that the name Euodias is actually a man's name but used in the right form by Paul.
- Her name means "prosperous journey" She is connected in these few passages with another female by the name of Syntyche (Si ti kee).
- These two women were at the riverbank (Acts 16:13-15), at a woman's prayer meeting when Paul and the others came along to find a place to pray. It was believed here that they, [uodias and Sin ti kee) along with another woman named Lydia opened their hearts and became co-laborers to God.
- If both women were the first hearers of the Gospel and followed Lydia was the first convert, they naturally took a leading part in teaching the Gospel to other women in a private place where the first church had been formed there (see 1 Timothy 2:11-12). Thoughts?
- What caused the breach between the two "deaconesses" in the Philippian Church is not told. Any ideas?
- Whatever the dispute was Paul heard about it in the Roman prison and it became serious and hindered the work of the Lord so Paul besought the two women to give up their differences and live at peace in the Lord. Was he trying to shame them?
- The lack of harmony between Euodias and Syntyche disturbed the Apostle so he urged a reconciliation for as those professing to be redeemed that their whole life should be in peace and in an endeavor to please His who had saved them."
- "How can two walk together except that they agree? "Thoughts?"
- What is reconciliation? Redemption? Relief in our disputes with sistersfriends?

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Food For Thought¹:

1. Women make up 61% of Christian congregations in the United States.
2. 87% of African American/Black/Negro women say they turn to their faith in times of turmoil.
3. 74% of us say living a religious life is very important!
4. For most African American women, absolute trust in a higher power has been a truism for centuries. In follow-up interviews with some of the black women surveyed, there seemed to be little or no angst about their religious beliefs or their role in the church. The women said their focus is on one thing: their personal relationship with God.
5. Why is it so a challenge to get along for Him who is greater than any of us?

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Hebrews 12:14-15 exhorts, in The Voice Translation, us to: *"Pursue peace with all people... looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled..."*

**NOVEMBER 25, 2023 - WOMEN OF THE MONTH – The Daughters of Philip
Acts 21:8-9; Book Page 244**

NO DECEMBER SESSION – Merry, Joyful, Blessed Christmas

**JANUARY 27, 2024 – PHEBE, PHOEBE “The Woman Who Wore The Badge of
Kindness” Romans 16:1-2 Book Page 120-121**

BLESSINGS OVERFLOW!!!

¹ https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/black-women-are-among-countrys-most-religious-groups/2012/07/06/gJQA0BksSW_story.html

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SKILL

Step Twenty-Seven: Count On Me

LESSONS WE CAN LEARN FROM EUODIAS AND SNYTYCHE? Page | 4

Their example shows that even those who have worked together for the cause of Christ can have disagreements. It also shows the importance of treating one another with love, compassion, and longsuffering (Ephesians 4:31; John 13:34–35). A church warring with itself is in danger of losing its testimony to outsiders. Euodia and Syntyche needed to be “of the same mind in the Lord,” and the other church members were to do all that was necessary to heal the breach. They were all fellow laborers in the Lord’s work, and their names were all part of the book of life.²

For further thought: Their disagreement was not private so it could have led to division; They were not in harmony “in the Lord” who is not about chaos but harmony; This disagreement was not to be left alone to work itself out; When dealing with each other, do not forget that we are all soldiers in the same battle and God requires tam work in church building, discipleship, introducing non-believers to our Savior!

Lastly, when faith found me, I could no longer be separated from that which shows a way, gives a way, is a way. How do you define friendship? This is one of my favorite songs that for the most part sums up what I need, what I am expecting, who I am looking for in a true friend:

² <https://www.gotquestions.org/Euodia-and-Syntyche.html>

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Count On Me

Count on me through thick and thin, A friendship that will never end
When you are weak I will be strong, Helping you to carry on.
Call on me, I will be there, Don't be afraid. Please believe me when I say, Count on me.

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I can see it's hurting you, I can feel your pain. It's hard to see the sunshine through the rain. I know sometimes it seems as if It's never gonna end. But you'll get through it.
Just don't give in 'cause you can, Count on me through thick and thin.
A friendship that will never end, When you are weak I will be strong, Helping you to carry on, Call on me, I will be there. Don't be afraid. **Please believe me when I say**, Count on me.

I know sometimes it seems as if We're standing all alone, But we'll get through it, 'Cause love won't let us fall. **Count on me through thick and thin.** A friendship that will never end. When you are weak, I will be strong. Helping you to carry on **Call on me, I will be there**, Don't be afraid, Please believe me when I say Count on me.

There's a place inside all of us, Where our faith in love begins. You should reach to find the truth in love, **The answers' there within, oh** I know that life can make you feel It's much harder than it really is. But we'll get through it. Just don't give in. **Count on me through thick and thin.** A friendship that will never end. When you are weak I will be strong, Helping you to carry on **Call on me, I will be there.** Don't be afraid. please believe me when I say.³

³ Source: [Musixmatch](#) Songwriters: Kenneth Edmonds / Whitney Houston / Houston Michael. Performed by Whitney Houston and CeCe Winans

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KNOWLEDGE



Dear (insert your name)

Today I engaged in a conversation about women and friendship where very little is known but she was still a part of God’s plan. I know trusting God and being patient with God is best for my journey and testimony as an Ambassador of Christ. I must be aware of tools Satan will use – impatience, doubt, arrogance, distrust, strife and division for example - to keep me from fully serving the Lord in mind, spirit and heart. Because of what I heard, shared, learned, witnessed, thought about, I want to remember most,

In Jesus Name,

—

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