Passage: "I will study your teachings and follow your footsteps." —Psalm 119:15 (CEV)

How many times has an usher or waiter said to you, "If you will just follow me"? And what did you do? You followed after him, confident that your guide would get you to your desired destination. We, as believers, are also guides of a sort, showing others the way to God's hope, love, and healing.

Prayer: Let's give thanks today for the wonderful women within your FRIENDS OF FAITH team who can say, "If you will just follow me" because their hearts are already set on following God. Pray we would each be that kind of woman.

Practical: The thought of others following in our footsteps may seem daunting until we remember Abraham, Moses, and David. They were great leaders, and multitudes followed them, but they were also flawed. Their worthiness was not rooted in how perfect they were but in the God they followed. So as we walk closer to our FRIENDS OF FAITH event, we need not put ourselves under pressure to perform perfectly...let us rather keep our hearts focused on Jesus! What matters is that we let every woman who attends our FRIENDS OF FAITH event know Whom we follow...and to WHOM they are invited to follow!

Today might be a good day to review your way of telling someone how you began your relationship with Jesus...just in case someone at our event asks you!

Until tomorrow, Kim

Passage: "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!" —Mark 9:24

I love this quote: "People who say it cannot be done should not interrupt those who are doing it." I can remember a time when I could have been the person in the first half of the quote. But thank goodness, while I was insisting that something could not be done, God interrupted to show me how He was already doing it.

Practical: Moving from the Deep South to Baltimore, while also giving up a national ministry I loved, was almost paralyzing for me. As I closed the doors of our ministry offices for the last time, the old cliché "When one door closes, another one opens" came to my mind. *Oh no!* I distinctly remember thinking. *Start over? Never. No way. And even if I wanted to, I don't know a soul in Baltimore.*

My, how my attitude changed. And it all began with new friends of faith simply meeting to talk. I'm filled with praise today that God has invited you and me to help restore His hope in the lives of others—beginning with the simple concept of friendship at our Friends of Faith event! You know what that means, right? It means God believes in us!

Prayer: Soon our FRIENDS OF FAITH doors will open! Friends we know, and those we have yet to meet, will enter a new place, like I entered Baltimore, not knowing anyone. Many may also be entering new seasons of life. Let's pray today for those women who have just moved, for those who have just begun new careers or new families, and for those who've just become empty nesters. Let's pray for those who are yearning for a deeper faith or who are opening themselves up to new friendships for the first time in ages. Many who will walk through our FRIENDS OF FAITH door may have had to close a door in their lives recently; perhaps they have little faith that life can ever again be as good as it was. May God use our event to restore women's hope as they see life will be OK again because God is already making it so while bringing to new friends to be encouragers along the way.

Have a great day, everyone! AND...who is that one person God wants you to reach out to today? Kim

Passage: "But because you said so, I will." -Luke 5:5

These are seven of the most powerful words a follower of Christ can commit to. Sometimes we shrug off the small things Jesus asks us to do as insignificant, having no impact on changing the world we live in. But I prefer Helen Keller's perspective: "I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything but still I can do something. Because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something I can do."

Prayer: Let's pray for each of our Team Members today, those in your area and those who will be traveling to join you. Let's pray that we realize the power of Christ that we have as individual "sparks" and the possibility of the spiritual "explosion" that can happen as we gather together! God is ready to do a big work...greater than we can even imagine! Are you ready? To whatever God asks of us today, are we willing to say, "Yes" because Jesus has said so? Let's get excited about our "Yes!" and get ready for the Friends of Faith "explosion"... and be honored to be a "spark!"

Practical: We are in our final days of FRIENDS TO FAITH preparations. Wherever God takes us today, we will encounter other women. Some may be women God has led us to. Who knows what will happen if we plow through our heart palpitations of fear and our sweaty palms of intimidation and extend an invitation to join us at FRIENDS OF FAITH! Let's do it just because He said so!

See you tomorrow, Kim

Passage: "Rejoice in the Lord always; I will say it again: Rejoice." —Philippians 4:4

Can you believe Paul wrote those words while he was in prison? Handcuffed, in the pit of a dark, dirty prison cell, he urges us to rejoice—not just when things are good, or when we are in great health, or even when we have things all together, but *always*.

Pray: Many women—even some of us receiving this email—will arrive at the FRIENDS OF FAITH feeling there is little to rejoice about in this season of life. Let's pray that our gathering becomes a place where we share the realness of our hope in Christ which is our best reason to rejoice. Oh the friendships that will develop as we share and strengthen one another with our faith talk!

Practical: Paul knew something that, at FRIENDS OF FAITH, we will have the privilege of sharing: Our joy does not come from those things happening around us. I guess we might say our inner attitude does not have to reflect our outward circumstances. Rather, true joy comes from Christ dwelling inside us. Let's pray for an atmosphere of authenticity to prevail at our FRIENDS OF FAITH event. Let's pray that women feel loved and accepted and know that true friendships remain possible. Let's rejoice is what our Lord is preparing for us to experience on our grand day!

Rejoicing in each of you, Kim

Passage: "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us...,so that we can comfort those...with the comfort we ourselves have received from God." -2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Are you overwhelmed by something that does not normally faze you? Are you feeling misunderstood? Do you feel sad for no apparent reason? Are you wondering if anything in your crazy schedule really matters?

Practical: If you are feeling weirded out by life right now, may I invite you to stay in that place? Don't rush to get out of it before you have a chance to learn from it. In fact, I suggest you grab a pencil and take some notes. You see, I'm a firm believer that God equips and prepares us through the things we experience—including (maybe especially) the difficult things. As He looks ahead to our FRIENDS OF FAITH gathering, He knows the women who will sit to your right and to your left. And more important, He knows what is tucked in their hearts.

Prayer: Today, turn your prayer inward. Write down what you are feeling. What emotions are swirling inside you? Then look in your Bible's concordance (index) for a soothing scripture and allow God's word to comfort you. Write down that scripture. Now, ask God to use that verse and your experiences to equip you to sit and talk with the friends you're about to meet at our FRIENDS OF FAITH with a realness that reflects the hope and comfort you have received from the Lord. How exciting is this! God is allowing you to be troubled...so He can comfort you...so that you are prepared to comfort someone He is sending to our FRIENDS OF FAITH event! Get ready, friend – God is going to use you in ways beyond what you can imagine!

Blessings dear team, Kim

Passage: "The eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him." -2 Chronicles 16:9

Practical: Is it hard to imagine yourself as someone God seeks out to use in a special way? Truth is, His choices have always been a bit unusual. That's because God sees what we cannot—our hearts. Consider some of God's greatest servants. God chose Joseph, a spoiled adolescent turned slave and convict, and strengthened him to save his family. God's eyes settled upon Moses, a murderer, to lead an entire nation out of bondage. And then who can forget Rahab, the prostitute God chose to help the Israelites take the Promised Land? Get the point?

Prayer: In six days your FRIENDS OF FAITH event doors will open: our Tour Across America will kick off in Augusta!! and then throughout many areas of the United States. As God sought out women to serve on this Augusta team, His eyes rested on you and each team member around you. He looked beyond our imperfections to our inward desire to do His work. He sees your heart and honors you! He sees your service and smiles! He hears our prayers and says, "I can do ever more than that!"

Today, let's give God thanks for our team and for His promise that those He calls, He equips. How wonderful it is that we can count on Him to finish His work faithfully through us.

Keep praying! Kim

Passage: "We have different gifts, according to the grace given us." -Romans 12:6

Practical: I know what my gifts are. And I bet you know as well. There are some jobs you can give me along with a deadline, and off I will go to get the job done. But give me a computer glitch, questions about sound systems, or anything technical, and I begin to panic. I have to confess; in the past few days I could have felt a little panicky, but for our great team who is gifted in those areas! Once FRIENDS OF FAITH begin, we will need to rely on lots of technology to keep things running smoothly. I suggest rather than any of us worrying, we pray about anything causing any trepidation!

Prayer: Technical ease will be crucial in our upcoming FRIENDS OF FAITH tour. We'll be livestreaming our events for other areas to use. Today, lets pray about all the computers that we'll be using, the sound systems, lighting...etc. While technology may not be *my* field of giftedness, we have very capable people in those roles. Will you join with me in praying for those who will be handling the technical details so that friends from all over the country will be able to join our FRIENDS OF FAITH tour?

Grateful for your prayer support, Kim