

**Prayers for Use in Presenting Modules from**  
***Faith, Sexism, Justice: Conversations toward a Social  
Statement on Women and Justice***

**Prayers for the Beginning of Each Session**

**Module 1: “Why do we need to talk together?”**

Spirit of Truth, we call upon you to be present as we begin our conversations about hard issues around women and justice. We know that what is reality in our world is far from what you want for us. Help us to envision a world where women and girls are valued and sheltered from violence and oppression. Help us make your vision of justice a reality. AMEN (Connie Winter-Eulberg 2017)

**Module 2: “What problems do women face, and what does justice require?”**

O God, you are the strength of the weak and powerless. We come together knowing that in isolation we can easily feel alone and hopeless. But with the Holy Spirit with us and other trusted people to work toward wholeness with us, we can create a world where your Word of love is lifted up. Bring us comfort as we learn and share our experiences. AMEN (Connie Winter-Eulberg 2017)

**Module 3: “How is sexism personal, and how are we the body of Christ together?”**

*\*\*This prayer has been written from a female point of view. It will need to be adapted for a male who prays this prayer.*

Mighty God, I hate it when someone views me only as a sexual object instead of an intelligent, strong, child of God. I don't like that I have to keep standing up for my rights to be heard and seen as someone who has great contributions to give at my job, as a parent, as a leader and as a person of faith. I pray that you will continue to give me strength to stand up for myself and demand respect. You created me as a whole person and I am proud to stand up for what you created me to be. AMEN (Connie Winter-Eulberg, 2017)

#### **Module 4: “What does economic sexism look like, and how can we seek equity for all?”**

Fountain of wisdom, we know that women are strong and hard workers. It is frustrating and degrading that women make less money than a man at the same job. We cannot wait for decades in the future for women to earn a living wage. Our children are without food, shelter, clean water and health care now. Give us insight into how we can change our institutions and government that are full of racism and sexism. How long must we wait God? AMEN (Connie Winter-Eulberg, 2017)

#### **Module 5: “How can we address violence against women and girls?”**

Healer of the outcast and the hurting, we ask for healing for all of the women, children and men who have been victims of sexual and domestic violence. The stories that we hear and the witness of others make us know that this is a huge problem. We want this violence to stop. We know that the healing will start today as we listen to each other. Helps us to find ways to end this violence. We ask for your blessing on the courageous survivors of violence who have become victors through their healing process. Your love changes us. Thanks. AMEN (Connie Winter-Eulberg, 2017)

#### **Module 6: “Why do words and images for God matter?”**

Hospitable God, you welcome all people to come to you as a hen gathers her chicks around her. Show us the way to be welcoming to all people especially those who cannot imagine you as “male” or “female”. Help us to bring a variety of images of you to our worship, education and prayer. You are bigger than our pronouns and more expansive than our language. Open our minds and hearts to provide hospitable language to include all people in our community. AMEN (Connie Winter-Eulberg, 2017)

#### **Module 7: “How do we challenge the misuse of Scripture against women and girls?”**

Watchful and caring God, you have created each of us with wonderful gifts and talents. We are constantly uncovering our passion for new things. You have provided us with Holy Scriptures to guide us. Help us to understand what scripture means to us and how to interpret it for us today. At times women and girls feel devalued when reading the Bible when they know that you love us so much that you sent your Son to earth who died for us. This act shines great value upon women and girls. Help us to live into your light. AMEN (Connie Winter-Eulberg, 2017)

**Closing Prayer:** *Stand in a circle with hands linked together. Look each other in the eye with a smile on your face.*

Let us pray,

Fountain of love and giver of hope, we are filled with gratitude for all of your children in this circle. The love that radiates between us holds us up and gives us hope. We know that we are your children and you have made us beautiful, intelligent, resourceful, grateful, powerful human beings. AMEN (Connie Winter-Eulberg, 2017)

**OR**

Guardian of our lives, we are filled with gratitude for the people gathered here who listen, share, and teach us. This conversation has brought up so many of our emotions. We know that you are by our sides to comfort and guide us. Help us to reach out and get help and support when we need it and help us to listen and lift up others who are affected by sexism and injustice. Thank you God for blessing our time together. AMEN (Connie Winter-Eulberg, 2017)