

## FACILITATOR GUIDE: IV

### *Women and War: The Survival of Hope*

#### **Materials Required:**

- *Women and War* study guide for each participant
- flip chart, easel, and markers
- watch/clock for time keeping
- paper and writing utensils for each participant for Exercise 1
- costumes and props for Exercise 2 (optional)
- stationery and pens for each participant (optional: see “Taking Action” under Exercise 3)
- care package items (optional: see “Taking Action” under Exercise 3)

**Room Arrangement:** semi-circle facing flip chart and facilitator(s)

#### **EXERCISE 1—Biblical Women Resisting Violence**

**Advance Preparation:** Post the fill-in-the-blank sentences on the flip chart.

#### **Facilitator Tips: Process**

- Begin with the opening prayer (or prayer of your choice).
- Post the fill-in-the-blank sentences on the flip chart and allow participants time to individually complete both sentences on paper provided.
- Share your responses with the group, then invite a participant to do the same. The participant can choose to pass or share, then will invite another participant to share with the group (this process is called “mutual invitation”).
- Read the facilitator “wrap-up.”
- Ask a participant to read Exodus 1:15-20, then lead a discussion of the questions that follow.

#### **EXERCISE 2—Women’s War Stories**

**Advance Preparations:** (Optional) Invite several participants to engage in a “reader’s theater” in which they offer a prepared, dramatic interpretation of the voices and stories of these women, complete with costumes and props.

#### **Facilitator Tips:**

- **Process:** Briefly introduce the reader’s theater and invite the volunteers who have prepared a performance of “Women’s War Stories” to present the piece. If you did not ask for volunteers ahead of time, ask for four volunteers to read the various roles. At the conclusion of the piece, facilitate a mini session (for

instructions on facilitating a mini session, refer to the facilitator's introduction booklet).

- **Content:** Content for this exercise has been included from several of the books, films, and organizations listed under "Recommended Resources" in the study guide. Encourage participants to consider further study of these resources.

### **EXERCISE 3—Faithful Witness to Christian Peacemaking**

#### **Facilitator Tips: Process**

- Introduce the three opportunities to take action by reading through each of them. As a group, select one (or more) action opportunities.
- If the group decides to create care packages for military women, you may choose to ask participants to bring supplies for the package to the next meeting and focus the remaining time on making cards of support to include in the packages.
- If the group decides to organize another performance or dramatic reading of "Women's War Stories" take the time to brainstorm possible venues, charge specific volunteers with following up, determine who will be responsible for advertising, etc.
- If the group selects the third action opportunity, you may want access to the internet so you can pull up the website for the group. Sign up members of the group to sponsor a sister individually, or choose to do so as a group. If you do it as a group, ask for volunteers to write the monthly letter of encouragement to your new "sister."
- Close with a reading of the Litany of Faithful Women, adapted from Hebrews 11. Ask for a volunteer to begin the litany, then move around the circle, giving each person the chance to read a part.