

BOOK REVIEW

God and Woman, By J. O. Terry, First Printing Test Edition, June 1998, Singapore. 189 pages. Can be ordered through the author or from national/international offices of agencies. Reviewed by Donna Smith

God and Woman is a chronological Bible storying model with a focus on the worldview of Muslim women.

In his introduction the author gives an explanation of the reasons for developing the lessons. He refers to *Women and Mission*, an article by Bryant Myers in MARC Newsletter, No. 93-3, Sept. 1993, p. 3. Myers noted that two keys for evangelism were "to recognise the possibly critical importance of women as a responsive entry point to resistant people groups" and "to recognise the importance of women as the ones most likely to have opportunities to speak to unreached women and to present the Gospel in ways they understand."

The introduction also includes an analysis of the worldview of Muslim women. 'Relationships' is first in the list. Although the Good News is the same for both men and women, there is a difference in the approach to telling it. "For women there was much greater interest in relationships than in doctrine."

Specific instructions on the preparation of the lessons are provided. These conclude with a reminder to train an assistant as soon as possible so that she will tell the story to her own listeners.

God and Woman is a collection of 90 lessons laid out in a workbook format.

They cover passages from Genesis through the Gospels. The first 3 lessons are on the themes of the **Bible**—"God's Precious Word," **God**—"The God Who Sees and Hears," and the **Spirit World**—"God Created the Spirit World." Then the chronological storying series begins with a lesson on creation from Genesis and ends with making a decision after stories about Jesus Christ.

Each lesson has a background section with notes for the teacher, questions on review and preview, a Scripture base with relevant verse references and a list of major themes to be covered. Then introductory questions and a story text are suggested. The story is followed by a session of 'Let's Talk' with possible questions to ask. The lesson concludes with a memory verse and a preview of the next story. This information is kept to 2 sides of an A4 sized paper.

This material appears to be carefully reasoned. I would like comments from someone who is using it. Have they found all the lessons equally important or do they choose only certain ones? On what basis do they make their choices? It would be helpful to designate a core of the most significant lessons for those storytellers who have limited opportunities to follow the entire programme.

Storying is an important way of reaching Muslim women. Terry has made a very helpful contribution to resources for evangelism.