

Women for Christ

1234 Main Street
Oakville, Illinois
(303) 555-1234
editor@wfchrist.com

January 3, 2002

Mrs. Jan Smith
999 Pennsylvania Avenue
Clifton, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Smith

Thank you for agreeing to write an article for *Women for Christ*. We have appreciated your books on prayer and we're looking forward to working with you.

As we discussed, we'd like you to write an article called "Why Women Don't Pray Much." The purpose of the article is to help women understand what keeps them from prayer and to help them strengthen their prayer lives.

We would like you to talk to committed Christian women—women to whom you minister and other women you know—and ask them what keeps them from praying as much as they would like to or think they should. Ideally, the women should be between 25 and 45 years of age.

Identify three to five major barriers to prayer (e.g., lack of time, difficulty in concentrating, not really believing prayer will be answered). Then devote a section of the article to each one. In each section, describe the problem, using quotes and observations from the women you interviewed. Then, using Scripture and your own experience, talk about how to overcome that problem.

Each section should answer the questions,
--What is the barrier?
--Why does it keep us from praying?
--How can we overcome this barrier?

Close the article by encouraging women that a deeper prayer life is possible and that the rewards make the effort worthwhile.

Be sure to use a personal approach as you write. Come alongside the reader and admit that you, too, have struggled with this area of prayer. Be careful not to

condemn or criticize the person who struggles with this area, but offer encouragement and practical help.

Our readers have known the Lord for an average of five years. They are primarily married women, ages 25-45, who have young children and work outside the home. They are highly motivated to grow in their faith, but are challenged by all the demands on their time.

The article should be 1200 words in length. The deadline is **April 3**. We will pay you \$200 for an acceptable article.

Enclosed are our guidelines for writers and a copy of *Women for Christ*. Your article should be similar in style and tone to "I Can't Talk about My Faith!" by Alana Miller on page 22.

Thanks again for agreeing to write this article. Please feel free to call us, collect, if you have any questions. We are looking forward to sharing your insights with our readers.

By His grace,

Natalie E. Editor
Managing Editor