

How then Shall We Live? Following Christ in a Broken World

Session 1—Choose

The Heart's "Yes" to God

Session 2—Transform

To follow God is a life time decision and a life changing decision

Session 3—Speak

Following Christ by confronting abusive power

Session 4—Act

Following Christ by trusting in God to act in our lives

Session 5—Grow

Following Christ by seeking, challenging and learning together

Session 6—Proclaim

Following Christ by offering our time, treasures and our talents.

Session 7—Risk

Following Christ by accepting the cost and the gift.

Session 8—Share

When we follow Christ we are never alone.

Session 9—Lead

Following Christ in partnership as women and men.

About the Author

Priscilla Singh is an ordained minister of the Tamil Evangelical Lutheran Church (TELC) in India. She has acquired multidisciplinary experience as a zoologist, teacher, gender specialist and theologian.



India,

Born to a Lutheran pastor and a high school teacher in India, Singh was recruited at twenty-three years old to be the first female program secretary in the Gurukul Lutheran Theological College & Research Institute in India. She later worked as the executive secretary for the United Evangelical Lutheran Church's Women's Desk, serving the organization's 11 member churches in India.

Her work in this position caught the attention of the global Lutheran community, which led to a position as executive secretary for the Lutheran World Federation's (LWF) Desk for Women in Church and Society (WICAS). Singh fulfilled this role for more than 10 years, during which time she worked with 140 member churches in 70 countries around the world. This involved travelling across the continents and organizing regional, national and global consultations and training programs on a wide range of issues, such as leadership, gender, violence, ordination, feminist perspectives in theology, water, HIV and AIDS, global warming, partnership, mission and more. She also edited the LWF magazine, *Women*, for several years.

Singh devoted half a year to working as a gender consultant on "It Will Not Be So Among You: A Faith Reflection on Gender and Power." She also contributed to a document entitled *Churches Say "No" to Violence Against Women: Action Plan for the Churches*, which has been the most translated and widely used LWF document in the sixty-plus year history of the organization. To date, it has been translated into 33 different languages.

In 2008, Singh was ordained—an event she had awaited for 18 years. Though her church, TELC, is the oldest Protestant and Lutheran Church in India, it was not until 2006 that it began to ordain women.

Singh's strong Lutheran beliefs, ecumenical marriage to a Methodist and interfaith living in India has shaped her thinking and practice. She has a lifelong commitment to serve with women and believes that women have a special calling to be in mission, following the tradition of Mary and all those who served Christ with their presence, solidarity, monetary gifts, witness and service, despite being sidelined by the disciples.

Christians, a minority in India, are the only living epistles their neighbours may ever get to read. For that reason, Singh believes loving the Lord with all our hearts and our neighbours as ourselves is crucial to be "missional" and to live "dia praxis," that is, to work toward common goals such as sharing, caring for creation and building peaceful coexistence in a pluralistic world.

Singh is passionate about relating to God through singing, worship, Bible studies, meditation and prayer, and caring for people's needs, particularly accompanying women in their struggles by offering a good word or even a smile. She feels that all our lives must point to the work of Christ on the cross, accessed through faith and expressed through joyful and shared living.

Currently, Singh is based in Geneva, Switzerland, where she freelances as a preacher, Bible study presenter and speaker for international consultations. She has a son, Jason and a daughter, Susan, who are 31-year-old twins. Jason lives in Vancouver, B.C., with his wife Elina, who is of Finnish descent. Susan lives in Switzerland with her husband Jeff, a German physicist.