

# Developing a Discerning Heart

**Module Name:** *Developing a Discerning Heart*

**Module Description:** This module explores both the value of women as image-bearers of God and the distortion of that image that occurred in the Genesis 3 account. The God-given thirst and the three capacities of thinking, choosing, and feeling are examined individually and collectively, along with the implications of the fall and the life-changing redemption offered in Christ in each capacity. Participants will not only better understand their God-given identity but will also better understand how God has been intricately at work in the story of their lives. They will begin to identify some of the wrong beliefs about God, themselves, and how the world works. Armed with this fuller understanding of themselves and God, participants are better equipped to come alongside others as peer helpers as they seek God's redemption and healing in their own lives.

**Suggested Prerequisite:** *Facilitating Relational Learning*

**Format:** Eight-day intensive or 48 hours in an alternative format

**Module Rationale:** All people come into adulthood with wrong beliefs formed in childhood and young adulthood, so as ministers of God's grace we will be faced with people who need help in identifying those wrong beliefs and replacing them with their true identity in Christ. Only as we have learned to work through our own wrong beliefs will we be able to help others to do the same.

**Learning Outcomes:** Participants will be able to

- identify the biblical foundation for their identity in Christ
- develop a biblical understanding of God's design for them and the subsequent damage at the fall
- understand the God-given thirst (yearning or desiring) and how it is met in legitimate and illegitimate ways
- understand the capacity of the mind (thinking), its relationship to the other capacities and the renewal process that is possible because of Christ
- understand the capacity to choose (the will) and how their choices are a direct result of what they believe
- understand the capacity of emotion (feelings) and how to constructively respond to that capacity
- assess past and present capacities as they relate to life events in a way that allows them to grow in their understanding of how God is redeeming their lives
- understand the resources God has made available to empower godly living and to recognize obstacles to growth
- adopt a new way of viewing problems and their solutions in order to learn effective peer-helping skills
- skills/competencies: effectively process desires, beliefs, emotions, and behavior through a biblical grid and to help others to do the same through the use of the "story board"

**Required texts:** *Developing a Discerning Heart* workbook

**Preparation work:** Participants will receive the workbook approximately 12 weeks before the module session, which will afford enough time to complete all the assignments ahead of arrival. There will be approximately 36 to 48 hours of preparation time needed.

**Instructional methodology:** An adult dialogical discussion format is used, including opportunities to practice the skills learned and application of creative learning methods.

**Completion requirements:** At least 80% of the assignments and all practice lessons must be completed.

**Participation requirements:** Leadership modules are targeted towards women working in a ministry setting who desire to have an impact on other women for Christ. A high level of English fluency is needed.



*Developing a Discerning Heart* is an Entrust Women-to-Women Ministry Training (WWMT) course module. [www.entrust4.org](http://www.entrust4.org)