

“These women are called, prepared, and surrendered to their crucial ministry. The stamp of God is on their lives and work. It’s my prayer that God will use their gifts across the world to draw thousands of women to the hope that Christ provides. *This is one ministry I’m sold on.*”

**Dr. Larry Crabb**  
*New Way Ministries*

“I commend FOCUS Ministries for helping the church in its battle against domestic abuse. After seeing the response to a message I preached on this topic, I’ve come to realize that domestic abuse is much more common in our churches than we would like to admit.”

“The materials and interaction I’ve had with FOCUS Ministries was helpful and very much needed. I pray that God will use FOCUS to awaken all of us to the reality of abuse as well as bring hope and healing to the victims.”

**Dr. Erwin W. Lutzer**  
*Senior Pastor, The Moody Church, Chicago, IL*

"The church has long been blind to a serious problem and has missed many opportunities to minister to women who are being oppressed, battered, and emotionally abused through the misuse of power and scripture within the covenant of marriage. Focus Ministries seeks to remedy this through education, counseling, practical resources, small groups, and emotional support. Focus Ministries provide a godly lifeline to those who have lost all hope. The church needs Focus Ministries to help them learn how to wisely help these troubled families. I enthusiastically recommend their ministry."

**Leslie Vernick LCSW**  
**Christian counselor, speaker**  
**author of *The Emotionally Destructive Relationship: Seeing It! Stopping It! Surviving It!***



## Retreat Leader

**Paula Silva** is co-founder and president of FOCUS Ministries, Inc. She is co-author of the book, *Violence Among Us: Ministry to Families in Crisis*.

She graduated from Northeastern IL University with a masters degree in counseling. She is a support group leader, speaker, workshop leader, and domestic violence trainer for churches, pastors, and leaders.

Paula serves on the Inter Faith Leadership Advisory Committee for the Mayor’s Office of Domestic Violence in Chicago and is a member of the American Association of Christian Counselors.

She has been a guest on the Moody Broadcasting Network and on the Harvest TV Show.

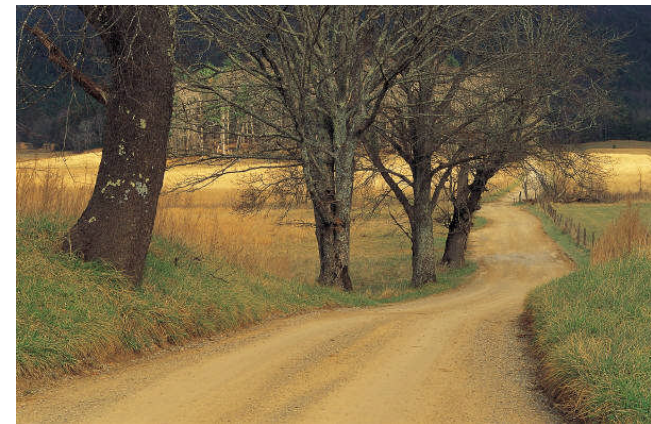
# You are Invited

to:

## A weekend retreat

## for women

## in pursuit of God



# A Woman’s Journey To God

**FOCUS Ministries, Inc.**  
**Focusministries1.org**

# A Woman's Journey To God

Check our website at [focusministries1.org](http://focusministries1.org) for upcoming dates.

## No more set rules . . .

- Pray harder
- Study more
- Be more submissive

This retreat is not about what you ought to do or who you ought to be . . .

It is about releasing the woman God had in mind when He made you!

## Retreat Schedule:

### Friday

5-7 p.m. Registration & Dinner  
7-9 p.m. Session 1  
"Divine Romance"

### Saturday

8-9 a.m. Breakfast  
9-11 a.m. Session 2 "Redemption"  
11—2 p.m. Lunch/Free Time  
2-5 p.m. Panel/Small Groups  
5-7 p.m. Free Time/Dinner  
7-9 p.m. Session 3 "Release"

### Sunday

8-9 a.m. Breakfast  
9-11 a.m. Worship

## Divine Romance

For every princess in disguise, this weekend will be a time to unveil the unique beauty God placed within you at your creation.

God invites you to experience the beauty, passion, and intimacy your soul has been craving. As you explore the story of your life, you'll get a glimpse of God's heart and the great romance He initiated before the dawn of time.

## Redemption

Every person's story is pierced by wounds with powerful messages like "You'll never be good enough." From the pain of every day living to attacks from the enemy who fears who you are and what you might become, each person struggles to find truth and redemption. In this session, we will define the lies you have believed and take steps toward healing the wound—turning from self-defeating strategies and opening the door for Jesus to bring healing and hope.

## Release

If lies, fear, and doubt did not stalk and paralyze your heart, what kind of woman would you be? What does God think of you? This session will help you see yourself through God's eyes and learn how to celebrate and release the woman God had in mind when He made you!

## Retreat Information

### Annual Retreats hosted by FOCUS

- Retreats are held at local retreat centers or hotels in Illinois. Check our website ([focusministries1.org](http://focusministries1.org)) for a list of upcoming retreats.
- Retreat begins on Friday evening and ends before noon on Sunday.
- The registration fee includes retreat notebook. Participants are responsible for their own lodging and food costs.

### Hosting Retreats in Your Area

- Retreat can be held at your local church or retreat center in your area.
- Retreat can be scheduled to begin on Friday morning and end on Saturday evening.
- Host will be responsible for providing small group leaders if more than 30 people attend (one leader for each group of 10).
- The host will provide traveling expenses, food, and lodging for FOCUS staff.
- Contact FOCUS Ministries for information on fees.

**Contact:**

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