



WITHOUT
RIVAL

COURSE GUIDE

WELCOME

Hello!

Thanks so much for joining me for the *Without Rival* course. I am so excited to walk with you and explore what it looks like to live as empowered and fearless daughters of God.

When the Lord inspired me to write *Without Rival*, I knew He had given me a message for this specific generation. I long to see women unleashed into boldness and purpose, and I believe that starts with discovering our identity as beloved. It's time for us to live in the glory of who He says we are and what He has done for us!

This course will take you on a journey to discover what it means to be loved and love without rival. Together, we will explore the importance of God's presence, how to live boldly in your Kingdom identity and purpose, the impact our rivals can have on us, and why it's so crucial we as women partner with God to dream and lead.

I'm praying that through this course, you'd experience fresh revelation of how deeply, uniquely loved you are. It's time to live without rival!

Lisa Bevere

READING PLAN

While you can complete the course without reading the book, I highly recommend reading *Without Rival* as part of your course experience. The video sessions will parallel and amplify major themes from the book.

The sessions and their corresponding chapters are as follows:

Session 1: Love Fearlessly

Highlights themes found in chapters 1 and 7.

Session 2: Don't Settle for Crumbs and Rumors

Highlights themes found in chapter 2.

Session 3: Be Part of the Conversation

Highlights themes found in chapter 3.

Session 4: Live Uniquely

Highlights themes found in chapters 4 and 5.

Session 5: Leave a Redemptive Legacy

Highlights themes found in chapter 6.

Session 6: Pursue the Eternal Story

Highlights themes found in chapter 10.

**We recommend that participants also read chapters 8 and 9 after completing the final session.*

SESSION ONE

Love Fearlessly

God loves us uniquely, not equally. Much like parents love each of their children in a different, powerful way, God uniquely delights in us as His sons and daughters. His love cannot be measured or contained. And it's from that powerful, transforming truth that we are called to derive our identity. We are free to live boldly and with purpose because we are loved without rival!

God designed us to live fearlessly as we find our deepest, truest identity in who He is. Let's explore fearless love together!

THE TRUTH ABOUT HIS LOVE

The Word is very clear that God's love defines our identity. 1 John 3:1 reads, "What marvelous love the Father has extended to us! Just look at it—we're called children of God! That's who we really are."

Children of God is who we really are. What other roles or titles have competed for your identity in the past?

John encourages us to “just look at” the love of God. What do you think it means to look at the love God has extended to us?

In a world of competing voices, think of three practical ways you can remind yourself of God’s love on a daily basis so it settles into your heart.

What does it say about God that He chose to create each one of His children uniquely, with a purpose?

EMBRACING OUR IDENTITY

Our identity as “unique” starts with God’s unique love for us. In His perfect plan, He created each one of us to imprint His glory onto the world in a specific way. When we embrace our identity as uniquely loved, we are freed to live in our unique purpose. This is what it means to develop fearless love!

What are the areas of life where you find it difficult to love fearlessly?

Spend some time quietly reflecting and communing with God. Ask Him for three things He loves about you and list them here.

How would your life be different if you really believed God loved and celebrated these things about you?

Congratulations—you completed session 1! Let's move on to next week's teaching and continue to grow together during session 2.

SESSION TWO

Don't Settle for Crumbs and Rumors

We are surrounded by opportunities to learn and grow in the Lord—and that's a good thing. But there is no replacement for the presence of God. In that place, we are transformed into who He created us to be. When we encounter Him and experience a fresh revelation of His love, we will be equipped to live powerful, bold lives without rival.

Let's spend some time reflecting and journaling about the relationship between the character of God, the presence of God, and our Kingdom purpose.

WHO IS LIKE ME?

Many times in Scripture, God asks the question “Who is like Me?” The answer is no one! No god or person can compare to Him. He is completely and perfectly without rival! Here are some Scripture verses that express the unique character of God:

“And one called to another and said: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!” —Isaiah 6:3 ESV

“But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved.” —Ephesians 2:4–5 ESV

“Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.” —1 John 4:8 ESV

“Trust in Him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us.” —Psalm 62:8 ESV

After reading these verses, list four of the aspects of God’s character or identity that stand out to you.

God is _____

God is _____

God is _____

God is _____

What does it mean that God has no rival? Why is it so important that God has no rival?

What portion of the I AM do you need to embrace?

HIS PRESENCE, OUR IDENTITY

What are some of the “crumbs and rumors” we settle for instead of the transforming presence of God?

How does knowing God differ than knowing about God?

How does knowing who God is affect our identity?

Let's go a step further. How does knowing our identity influence our purpose and actions?

You were intentionally designed for a purpose! Let's keep exploring and learning together in the next session.

SESSION THREE

Be Part of the Conversation

It's easy to logically accept concepts in our minds without truly believing them in our hearts. For example, many of us know that God is good and wants to fulfill an amazing purpose in our lives, but how many of us truly believe it in our hearts?

If we took God at His Word about our identity and our purpose, things would change. We could live fearlessly and boldly. We would ask different questions, pray differently, and live differently—with hopeful expectancy for God to go above and beyond our wildest dreams.

MOVING TOWARD YOUR DESTINY

Thankfully, God has already done the work in establishing our identity and destiny. But stepping into your divine identity and purpose takes movement on our part.

What has kept you from stepping boldly toward God in the past?

What are we missing out on when we live in fear or stay focused on the past?

What are some of the promises that God offers us as His children?

FAR TOO EASILY PLEASED

“It would seem that our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased.” —C.S. Lewis

What does it mean to be “far too easily pleased”?

Compare and contrast the difference between mud pies in a slum with the holiday at sea C.S. Lewis describes.

What promise (or promises) are you laughing at and lying about?

What are some of the conversations you need to be a part of?

What are some practical steps you can take toward joining the conversation and living fearlessly before God?

You have everything you need to live a bold and fearless life! May you have courage to be part of the conversation in new ways.

SESSION FOUR

Live Uniquely

All of us crave someone of ultimate glory loving us. The good news is, that's exactly what we have in the Lord! Everything we need for a meaningful life can be traced back to Him. Everything we've ever wanted comes from the reality that we are loved without rival!

However, living this way isn't as easy as it sounds. We live in a time when it's so easy to compare and label ourselves and others. So many of us seek the love and affirmation of others instead, only to be crushed when we don't feel we meet their expectations.

We've already learned that as daughters of God, we each have a powerful and unique destiny. But classifying, comparing, and commending ourselves doesn't get us any closer to what God has for us. In fact, they usually work against us. God has a different story.

THE PROBLEM WITH CLASSIFYING, COMPARING, AND COMMENDING OURSELVES.

Our connection with God can slip when we compare ourselves to others. How do you think our relationship with God is affected by our desire to meet the world's standards?

Comparison is the thief of joy. In what other ways can comparison rob us of the life we were made for?

Commending ourselves is another way we live outside God's design. How can that be troublesome to us?

What truths are we not believing when we compare and label ourselves and others?

Have you allowed yourself to be labeled or pigeonholed? If so, what steps can you take to move away from these labels?

THE TRUTH ABOUT RIVALS

People can either “best us” or “bring out the best in us.” What is the difference between the two?

What has a rival exposed in your life?

How can God use our rivals for our advantage?

Destinies are revealed in seasons of confrontation rather than seasons of comfort. Allow the resistance you're facing to work for you—not against you!

SESSION FIVE

Leave a Redemptive Legacy

Living a life without rival includes leaving a redemptive legacy. Each day we live, love, and lead reflects God’s heart onto the world, leaving a unique imprint of who He is. Discovering your unique gifting and calling will position you to step up and lead with strength.

God wants to reveal your purpose, partnering with you to serve, lead, and love like He does. Let’s take a closer look at God’s heart for our legacy as women.

A WOMAN’S ROLE

God makes all things new. He longs to restore the world to His original design—both men and women lending their strength for the benefit of others.

How are women portrayed in both mainstream culture and Christian culture?

What do women uniquely have to offer the church and the world?

How does a woman's identity uniquely reflect the character of God?

How can women and men be unified but distinct in their God-given purpose?

LIVING BOLDLY IN YOUR PURPOSE

What steps can you take to partner with God to boldly offer your gifts? Think, for example, of how He has gifted you and areas you could use your gift to shift culture.

What does it mean that we as daughters of God have "full permission" to live out the call of God on our lives?

What obstacles might we have to overcome to do so?

You are beautiful and bring unique beauty to the world. Step boldly into how God designed you as a woman and as a precious daughter of God!

SESSION SIX

Pursue the Eternal Story

When we fix our eyes on the eternal rather than the temporal world around us, we are released into a meaningful life in line with God’s purposes for us. The more we align with God’s vision for our lives, the more effective we become—laying aside all weights and distractions that hinder us from fulfilling our destiny.

FRIENDSHIP WITH THE WORLD

1 John 2:15 tells us, “Do not love the world or anything in the world.” This can potentially be confusing when we know that God has called us to make an impact on the world with our gifts.

What is the difference between sharing love with the world and loving the world?

How can loving the world keep us from our divine purpose?

1 John 2 also tells us that “the world is passing away along with its desires.” In light of this scripture, what does it mean to live with an eternal perspective?

A STORY WITHOUT RIVAL

Your life and all of its potential is a God-given entrustment. How does knowing you are trusted by the Lord change the way you see and approach your life?

What does it mean to be part of an eternal story?

What are you most excited for God to do in and through your life?

Stand before God, radiant in hope, faithful in serving, and loving in all you do. For you, my friend and sister, have a destiny without rival. Now go with the courage born of love and boldly—brashly—live it.