



## LWC...?

- ...Lots of White Chocolate?  
(in my dreams!!)
- ...Lots of Women Chattering?  
(getting warmer)
- ...London Women's Convention!

Yes but I still don't know what that means?

Well for 21 women from Northampton LWC meant a 7am Saturday morning start bribed with chocolate croissants and coffee! By 9.30am we were no longer 21 but 3,500 as we joined with women all over the country at London's ExCel Centre. The day's theme was looking at God's Sovereignty through the life story of one woman - Ruth. Ruth's life went from happily married to widowhood, from citizen to foreigner, from safety to danger. Yet Ruth's life was turned upside down by the example of her mother-in-laws' faith in a God that is sovereign over all events good and bad. Ruth also came to put her faith in that God. We were challenged to look beyond daily events to God's bigger picture and plan for our lives. Nothing happens beyond His control – is it really possible to believe this? Ruth's answer would be a resounding “Yes - look and my life story and see for yourself!”

This years London Women's Convention was a truly amazing experience for lots of reasons. But don't believe my word.... Look out in future months magazines for what the LWC meant to some of the other 3,500 women.

Rachel Menon

## LWC...?

I had no idea.....!

I had no idea what to expect from the London Women's Convention, having never been to anything like it before. I just had a certainty that I should go. On arrival the atmosphere was warm, friendly and expectant. Three and a half thousand women all eager to praise God, learn more about Him and spend time with like-minded women gathered in the hall to hear an inspiring speaker (Carrie Sandom) review the Book of Ruth – a woman's story.

Then we went to the seminar of our choice. Mine was “Opening up the Old Testament” with Caroline West. She started with an overview of the whole bible to show us how it all fits together. The great stories of the Old Testament have relevance for us today but should be read in context. She reminded us that the OT is a historical narrative with historical content and is part of a whole. It tells us what happened, NOT that what happened should have. God is the hero and Jesus the fulfilment. My afternoon session was “The Sovereignty of God” by Leonie Mason. There was quite a lot of discussion about free-will, prayer and evangelism. Then we all got back together for a good “sing-song” before making our way back to the coach for a period of reflection on the journey home.

It was good to take a day out of our busy lives to concentrate on the real meaning of life.

Janet Ward

## London Women's Convention



“I had thought about going in previous years but there was always a reason not to go!”

Realising it is almost Christmastime, set me thinking back over this last year and remembering the “high’s” and “low’s” of 2008. I soon conceded that the “high’s” far outweighed the “low’s” and concentrated on them. At the top of the list was the London Women’s Convention which I attended for the first time this year. I had thought about going in previous years but there was always a reason not to go. This year (with lots of encouragement) I went and .....what an experience!

“I have only one regret – why hadn’t I gone in previous years?”

After an early start on a comfortable coach, fortified with coffee and croissants we arrived at our destination. A huge building with lots of eating places. We found the hall and it was soon packed with around three thousand ladies. The atmosphere was electric. We were soon chatting to others and anticipating the start of the convention. The talks and seminars were so uplifting and the way some of the speakers found Jesus was amazing. It was the first time that I had sung and prayed with such a large number of ladies and it is something I will never forget. I came home with a huge smile on my face and knowledge that we are all equal in the sight of God no matter what our background or failings. We had all been there for the same reason, our love of God and wanting to know more of his walk and purpose.

I have only one regret – why hadn’t I gone in previous years?

Norma Burnham

## **2008 - L.W.C - 2009**

...”I’m really looking forward to going next year!”

We only started coming to Moulton Church in August last year, so when I was asked if I wanted to go to the London Women’s Convention in the October, I was slightly apprehensive as I didn’t think I would know anyone else! I needn’t have been concerned, however, as Rachel Menon was happy to look after me and I also arranged to meet up with a university friend who was attending too. Everyone was really friendly so if you want to go to the next one and are worried about not knowing anyone else, don’t be!

Having not regularly attended Church for quite some years, I have found going to church with two very young children in tow to be quite a different experience from the days when I could completely focus on the service. I’m not sure if I’ve ever actually made it through an entire sermon when the children are there without having to go and sit in the crèche with my youngest or take the older one to the loo! Going to the London Women’s Convention was absolutely fantastic as I could relax and give my whole attention to what was going on. Being able to listen to the words of the songs and the talks and hear what God was saying to me, without any distractions, was a very special experience for me at this point in my life.

The two main talks covered the book of Ruth and the key things that left an impact on me were God’s sovereignty over all – both us and the world – and how we should respond to suffering with determined faith. The teaching was fantastic – in depth and exploratory but also very accessible.

I’m really looking forward to going again next year (assuming that my husband is happy to look after the girls again all day on his own!) and would encourage anyone who is thinking about attending to come along too. If you don’t know anyone else who is going you can always come and sit with me!

Sarah Hillman