

MINISTERING TO *Women* 2019



INTRODUCING THE
2019 THEME

Adored

By the God Who Sees Me

THEME STUDY

**Adored By the
God Who Sees Me**

**Valuing Women
and Treasuring
God's Word**

**Somewhere Over the
Rainbow** Ministering to Women
Suffering Pregnancy Loss

Welcome!

Ministry to women has never been more complex than it is today! Women in our society no longer have a biblical worldview, and are overwhelmed by many of life's puzzling questions, crushing demands, and constant stresses. In the name of Jesus, we have the hope and healing they need.

National Women's Ministries partners with My Healthy Church to provide this magazine as a resource to you—the local leader.

We desire to make resources available to you as you reach out to the women in your church and community. We hope you will enjoy every page and refer back to this magazine all year long.



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Dear Women's Leader,

(and all others who may hold this resource magazine in your hands),

We all share a universal human longing to be seen and to know we are loved. This truth leads us to the message of our 2019 theme:

Adored—By the God Who Sees Me.

I have good news for you, friend: He sees you right where you are, and He cherishes you! Yes, YOU, with all your struggles, frustrations, failures, issues, heartbreak, and brokenness. He sees you, and He adores you!

My prayer is that our theme for 2019 will flood your soul with freedom and joy, encouraging you and empowering you to be all He has created you to be. He longs to help you and heal you. May you find everything you need in Him in this very hour.

May this magazine be a useful resource for you throughout the entire year. We are here to serve you. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or suggestions you might have. We pray that God's presence and blessings will flood your life!

Partnering with you for effective ministry to women,



Kay Burnett
National Women's Ministries Director



Why Ministry to Women is IMPORTANT

The role of women within the family, workplace, and society has changed drastically in recent decades. It's no surprise that how women relate to church is also changing. A Barna Group report shows women disengaging from church at an unprecedented rate. Here are five trends Barna lists as factors contributing to this phenomenon:

Competing Priorities—Many women (68 percent) list family as their top priority, a good place to put family. Church came in a distant second (11 percent).

Busyness—The research showed that women often experience tension between what they want to do and what they have time for. Twenty-two percent indicated they would like to improve their spiritual life or activity.

Lack of emotional engagement and support—Only 17 percent of women said they felt “very” supported at church; nearly 43 percent said they do not feel any emotional support from church. This finding presents a significant opportunity for churches seeking to engage women in their communities.

Changing family structures—young women are less likely to fit the mold of a traditional nuclear family: husband, wife, children. Delays in marriage and parenting have significant effects on women who attend church.

Changes in belief—Only 45 percent of unchurched Millennial women self-identify as Christian.¹

These sobering statistics help us value specific ministry to women within the local church. How can we help women make church a priority, and help them focus on spiritual life in spite of

busyness? How can we engage them emotionally and support them? How can we welcome women who are not part of a traditional family structure?

Ministry to women must be specific, intentional—and most importantly, relational. Women relate to the **presence** of another woman, which can bring hope and healing. The **understanding** one woman gives another is also a catalyst for healing. **Meaningful conversation** opens the door for biblical instruction and guidance. As a godly woman leads the way by **example**, she can make a lasting impact. And women need **human connection**—a warm hug from a friend or holding hands while praying helps a woman feel cared for.

As leaders, let's strive to live in a way that says, “Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ” (1 Corinthians 11:1, NIV).

Yes, ministry to women is invaluablely important.

¹ Barna Research, “Five Factors Changing Women's Relationship with Churches,” <https://www.barna.com/research/five-factors-changing-womens-relationship-with-churches/>, accessed May 14, 2018.



How One Church ENERGIZED Ministry to Women

Women of Glad Tidings Church, Dunn, North Carolina, have always had a strong presence in the church. They provide bereavement meals, raise funds for missions, serve as sponsors for Girls' Ministries, teach Sunday School, work in the nursery, form prayer circles, and much more.

"However, we went through a season with no organized Women's Ministries," explained Lena West, the current Women's Ministries leader.

When National Women's Ministries published *A Quick Guide for Ministry to Women* in 2016, Lena felt led to revitalize the church's ministry to women, with the support of senior pastor, Tim Rice.

Lena formed a steering team in 2017 of ten women of various ages and backgrounds. The team prayed together, then went through *Quick Guide*—specifically for training women's leadership teams.

The team then implemented the three-dimensional design from *Quick Guide*: big events, small groups, and one-on-one connections—with building relationships at the forefront of all they do.

"Our mission is to touch the lives of women by the transforming power of Jesus Christ, discipling them to follow His example, and training them to minister to others," Lena said. They are now called Ladies ALIVE.

About twenty women with leadership qualities attended the summer-long "Ladies Empowerment" class, where they learned the vision for Women's Ministries in their church and learned how God uniquely created them and gave them spiritual gifts. Lena adds, "As the Lord raises up leaders, we hope to offer more small groups. We are praying to nurture every woman, whether she is a new convert, a college student, single mother, mother of preschoolers, empty nester, retired woman, or shut-in."

Ladies ALIVE held a big event "kickoff" breakfast with door prizes and a guest speaker; over 60 women



attended. In September, leaders hosted Ladies Night Out at a local restaurant, which pulled in a number of visitors from the community—and retained several of those women who now attend the church regularly. Ladies ALIVE also offers Women's Prayer Circle on Monday nights, for powerful, effective prayer. Leaders have been pleasantly surprised by the great response, and the variety in ages at events.

Twenty-five women from the church attended the North Carolina District Women's Ministries conference in October. "God met with each of us through the worship, preaching, and workshops," Lena reflects.

About one-on-one connections, Lena says, "Mentoring does not necessarily require white hair, but a heart surrendered to God and a desire to see women grow in Christ. We are blessed with many spiritual mentors." She hopes to offer more intentional friendships and prayer triads, led by spiritually mature leaders, as the ministry grows.

See page 31 for more information on *A Quick Guide for Ministering to Women*.

Want to Be TRAINED?

We believe every woman is called to minister. Whether or not you consider yourself a leader, you can impact your struggling neighbor, coworker, or friend. Our vision is for you and every other Christian woman to be equipped to minister within your circle of influence.

That's why we've created this Equip Women area on our website that provides online training and resources! Feel free to use each unit's content for individual or group study. We hope you enjoy these units!

Leadership units are organized into five categories: Growing My Heart; Developing My Skills; Ministering to Women; Establishing Ministry; and Coordinating Ministry. Most units are available in English and Spanish.

You will find topics such as

- Six Disciplines of an Effective Ministry Leader
- Biblical Womanhood
- Responding to Difficult Women

All-new units:

- Ministering to Families of the Incarcerated
- Ministering to Families of Children with Autism
- Ministering to Victims of Domestic Violence

And there is more. We know that you and your leadership team will love learning together!

Visit: **equipwomen.ag.org** to find around forty leadership units — all free!
Blessings to you as you learn to minister to the women in your life!



We're in the BIBLE APP!

**NEW! Download
the latest version of
YouVersion®
The Bible App.**



- Find AG Women
- Discover new purpose
- Walk deeper with the Lord



**Also, find and follow National
Women's Ministries here:**

 AG Women  @agwomens

National Women's Ministries wants to share a message for women everywhere in 2019 with the **THEME:**



National Women's Ministries wants women everywhere to hear this message of hope and healing: You are cherished, you are worthy, valued, chosen—you are adored by God, our Father.

Hagar, Abraham and Sarah's servant, was the only person in the Bible who was able to give God a name, based on how He intervened in her life. She called Him "El Roi," meaning, "You are the God who sees me" (Genesis 16:13, NIV), which is our theme verse.

Our theme study book, *Adored By the God Who Sees Me* by Kerry Clarensau and Kay Burnett, explores several women in the Bible whose stories demonstrate God's incredible love, healing power, and His surprising habit of seeing greatness and promise in women of all stations of life. (See pages 10-11 of this magazine for more information.)

Learn more about this theme, **Adored**, on the following pages of this magazine, and by visiting **women.ag.org** for more information. You will find more resources surrounding this theme, plus

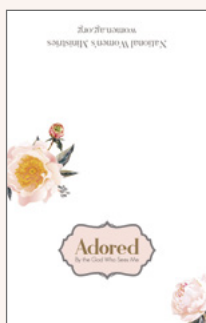
- free downloadables
- a suggested sermon outline
- a dramatic monologue—and more!

**National Women's
Ministries Day
is Sunday,
February 24, 2019,**
for Assemblies of God
churches across the United
States and worldwide to
celebrate the women of
their congregations.

Announcing NEW

theme downloadables

for all your Adored events!



Note Cards

This downloadable 3 x 4" notecard is perfect for thanking your ministry team after the big event or sending a note of encouragement to someone who needs it, all while keeping with the 2019 theme, "Adored."



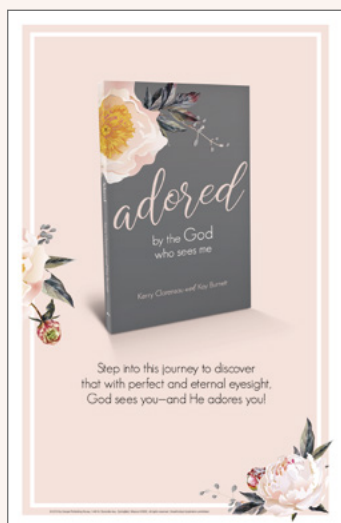
Bottle Wrap

Use this free bottle wrap art to customize the look of water bottles for any of your events. Women will quench their thirst and receive a message of hope at the same time!



Invitations

Invite women individually to your conference or event with these handy, downloadable event invitations, customizable to your specific event, and featuring the 2019 National Women's Ministries theme, "Adored."

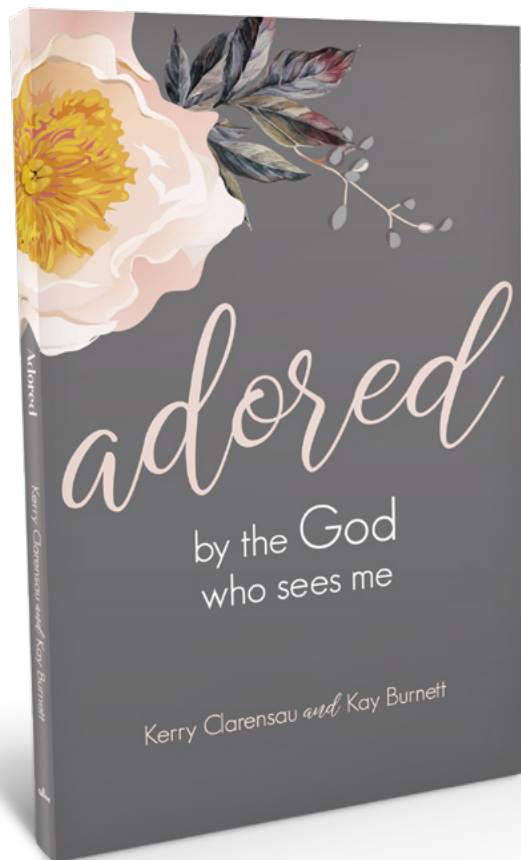


Posters

Announce your theme book study or event with these free downloadable posters. Fill in your group meeting's dates and times and post copies all over your church to call the women of your church to join you! Go to women.ag.org to easily download these posters.

Visit **women.ag.org** to find these downloadables, plus more!

We invite you to step into this study with us: ADORED BY THE GOD WHO SEES ME!



You will see how God saw a few women in the Bible, how He valued them and loved them. You will be encouraged by the ways He helped them through difficult challenges and called them out of darkness and brokenness into His light and healing.

God has always been in the business of mending, healing, strengthening, and commissioning women of every background, age, culture, and station in life.

Step in and grow even closer to the God who adores you.



Paper, 5½ x 8½", 104 pages

English 02MV4112 \$9.99

10 or more, \$8.99 ea.



Paper, 5½ x 8½", 112 pages

Spanish 02MV4113 \$9.99

10 or more, \$8.99 ea.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS:



KERRY CLARENSAU is a speaker, mentor, author, and inspiring leader for women. She has served in ministry with her husband, Mike, for over 30 years, and has served in local, state, and national ministry positions.

She is currently the Assemblies of

God North Texas District Women's Ministries Director. She and Mike have two sons and daughters-in-law and three grandchildren.



KAY BURNETT has served alongside her husband, Jim, in full-time ministry for more than 20 years — eight of those years serving as the Arizona District Women's Ministries Director. In 2016, she was appointed as the Assemblies of God National Women's

Ministries Director. Jim and Kay have a son and daughter-in-law, a daughter and son-in-law, and five grandchildren.

A PREVIEW of the women we'll study

This God who sees you wants you to know in your own life, in your personal circumstances, that with perfect and eternal eyesight, He sees you. He yearns to comfort you, offer you gentle correction when you need it, and point you in the right direction. The life He offers you is big and deep and filled with purpose and hope.

HAGAR

The God Who Sees Me

Feeling marginalized by her circumstances, Hagar met God when He interrupted her journey in the wilderness.

THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

The God Who Sees My Deepest Need

This woman sought her natural desire in natural ways; and longed for someone to see her deepest needs.

MARY OF BETHANY

The God Who Sees My Heart to Know Him

Mary of Bethany chose to have a heart that wanted to know God. She was devoted to learning from Jesus.

MARY MAGDALENE

The God Who Sees My Brokenness

Mary Magdalene struggled with bondage and brokenness, until she met the God of her past, present, and future.

DEBORAH

The God Who Sees My Place in His Work

Deborah trusted God's place for her, knowing He would use her gifts and strengths for His glory.

HANNAH

The God Who Sees My Deepest Longings

Hannah thought her dreams of becoming a mother were lost, until she put her faith in God.

RUTH

The God Who Sees My Destiny

Ruth trusted God with her future, and followed her mother-in-law in obedience, as God took care of her future.

WIDOW

The God Who Sees Me Completely

She may have been a frail, poorly dressed woman, but Jesus saw her heart fully devoted to the Father.

Each session will include

- Stories of biblical and modern-day women
- personal application
- verses to explore further

Gather women from your church and community to complete this rich study with you! Visit us online at women.ag.org.



This God—this amazing-Creator-of-all-things God—wants you to know today that He loves you. He treasures you and has incredible plans for you. Step into this journey beginning in a wilderness desert. If you say yes to His leading, you are certain to encounter mountain-top experiences along the way to exhilarate your soul!

~ Kerry Clarensau and Kay Burnett



2019 Adored Theme Product



01 T-SHIRT Celebrate your event in style with charcoal gray theme T-shirt with Adored logo. Semi-fitted, 100% ring spun cotton.

| | | |
|----------|--------|---------|
| 08MV6110 | Small | \$ 9.99 |
| 08MV6111 | Medium | \$ 9.99 |
| 08MV6112 | Large | \$ 9.99 |
| 08MV6113 | XL | \$ 9.99 |
| 08MV6114 | 2XL | \$11.99 |
| 08MV6115 | 3XL | \$13.99 |

10 or more, \$8.99 ea.

(any combination of sizes, English and Spanish)

02 FLOWY SHIRT Change it up with this trendy, hi-low, ¾ sleeve top featuring a looser fit and gold foil design. Gray, 50% polyester/25% cotton/25% rayon.


| | | |
|----------|--------|---------|
| 08MV6122 | Small | \$19.99 |
| 08MV6123 | Medium | \$19.99 |
| 08MV6124 | Large | \$19.99 |
| 08MV6125 | XL | \$19.99 |
| 08MV6126 | 2XL | \$21.99 |

10 or more, \$17.99 ea.

(any combination of sizes, English and Spanish)

03 BALLOON Blush-colored balloon with Adored imprint in white. Latex, 11", pkg of 10

| | | |
|---------|-----------------|------------|
| English | 17MV8261 | \$4.99 |
| | 5 or more pkgs, | \$4.49 ea. |
| Spanish | 17MV8262 | \$4.99 |
| | 5 or more pkgs, | \$4.49 ea. |

 **WARNING: CHOKING HAZARD** – Small parts. Not for children under 3 yrs.

04 MUG White mug with floral and Adored imprint on one side. "I am treasured and cherished in God's heart" on the other. Dishwasher and microwave-safe. Ceramic, 11 oz.

| | | |
|---------|-------------|------------|
| English | 17MV8264 | \$7.99 |
| | 12 or more, | \$6.99 ea. |
| Spanish | 17MV8265 | \$7.99 |
| | 12 or more, | \$6.99 ea. |

05 GIFT BAG Sleek silver gift bag featuring Adored imprint in white. Matte-finish bag with matching macramé handles. 10" W x 4" D x 8" H

| | | |
|---------|-------------|------------|
| English | 17MV8254 | \$1.99 |
| | 10 or more, | \$1.79 ea. |
| Spanish | 17MV8259 | \$1.99 |
| | 10 or more, | \$1.79 ea. |

06 BULLETIN Features Adored theme art with blank inner page. 11 x 8½" flat, folds to 5½ x 8½", pkg of 25

| | | |
|---------|-----------------|------------|
| English | 08MV2077 | \$3.99 |
| | 5 or more pkgs, | \$3.49 ea. |
| Spanish | 08MV2078 | \$3.99 |
| | 5 or more pkgs, | \$3.49 ea. |

07 RESOURCE MAGAZINE Order copies for your ministry leaders. 8 x 10¼", 32 pages



| | | |
|---------|----------|--------|
| English | 75MV2612 | \$.99 |
| Spanish | 75MV2614 | \$.99 |

08 MAGNET Features floral imprint and "I am treasured and cherished in God's heart." Chiseled-edge ceramic stone magnet. 2¼" x 2¼"

| | | |
|---------|-------------|------------|
| English | 17MV8267 | \$2.79 |
| | 10 or more, | \$2.49 ea. |
| Spanish | 17MV8268 | \$2.79 |
| | 10 or more, | \$2.49 ea. |

09 ADORED BY THE GOD WHO SEES ME BOOK

Kerry Clarensau and Kay Burnett remind you that you are seen by an amazing God who has incredible plans for your life. Paper, 5½ x 8½", 104 pages, Spanish 112 pages

| | | |
|---|-------------|------------|
|  English | 02MV4112 | \$9.99 |
| | 10 or more, | \$8.99 ea. |
|  Spanish | 02MV4113 | \$9.99 |
| | 10 or more, | \$8.99 ea. |

10 BOOKMARK An affordable gift option for your women's events. 2¼ x 7", pkg of 10

| | | |
|---------|------------------|------------|
| English | 13MV6776 | \$1.99 |
| | 10 or more pkgs, | \$1.79 ea. |
| Spanish | 13MV6777 | \$1.99 |
| | 10 or more pkgs, | \$1.79 ea. |

11 GIFT KIT Excellent for gifts or event favors. Includes Adored book, magnet, mug, and gift bag.

| | | |
|---------|-------------|-------------|
| English | 08MV0716 | \$16.99 |
| | 10 or more, | \$14.99 ea. |
| Spanish | 08MV0717 | \$16.99 |
| | 10 or more, | \$14.99 ea. |



Valuing Women and *Treasuring* God's Word

by ReGina Johnston and Jina McAfee, with Darla Knoth

The women of Bethel Church, Temple, Texas, will meet you at the door.

Six Wednesday nights each in spring and fall, Bethel Women hosts 150 to 200 women for coffee, fellowship, and discipleship as they gather to study God's Word.

Bethel Women's leaders present purchased studies with DVD or create their own studies with an established teaching team. The team includes ReGina Johnston, ministries and discipleship pastor and wife of senior pastor Elwyn Johnston, and Bible study coordinator Jina McAfee. Additional teachers, ranging in age from teens to 60s-plus, prepare studies, presenting the Word with a variety of styles and experiences.

When Bethel Women creates a study, they produce a book with student pages to correspond with teaching sessions and daily devotions, using the S.O.A.P. method, which stands for Scripture, observation, application, and prayer. Scripture becomes the focus of home study and group times. The goal is to awaken women to love the Word, for daily time with God, so when the study ends, they will want to meet with Him every day.

Discipled to be disciplers. Women train as facilitators before leading tables of eight to ten women. As they are discipled, they be-

come disciplers. Facilitators invite their friends, family, coworkers, and neighbors to join them at a table. The facilitator is responsible to connect the women at her table to one another and to God.

As women arrive at a session, they settle at tables with coffee or tea, a light snack, and conversation. Facilitators ask women to bring snacks one week during the semester to share with their table. Coffee and tea are provided.

Weekly sessions begin with a welcome and announcements, followed by small group homework discussion, worship (often with simple guitar background), and a 30-minute live or video teaching.



The teaching team of Bethel Women's Bible Study; ReGina Johnston is second from the left; Jina McAfee is third from left.



Women of Bethel love worshiping together and studying God's Word.

When the teaching is finished, women discuss what they have just learned, and the night closes with worship and prayer. The Word comes alive as women share real life around each table.

Reaching generations. As Bethel Women's Bible study grew, leaders discovered the need to organize teams of volunteers. ReGina Johnston states, "We attribute our growth to a mighty work of the Lord, and to the philosophy that elevating people in teams of ministry, so no one does ministry alone, increases our sphere of influence."

Bethel Women is open to women as young as 18 years, and mature women up to 80 years and beyond. North Texas District Women's Ministries Director Kerry Clarensau says, "What a gift—for a church like Bethel to value women by providing these sessions!"

Bethel Women offers two big events a year as well as a season of one-on-one mentoring according to the 3-D model established by National Women's Ministries. The three components of the 3-D model are big events, small groups, and one-on-one connections.

Part of Going is Giving. Each semester, Bethel Women complete a service project or help fill a current community or world need. Engaging in active, tangible service knits women together and awakens them to ministering to others. Projects have included selling baskets at silent auction to benefit missions; taking baked goods to local hospitals, police or fire stations,

schools or businesses; and "Loving Our Neighbors" by going door-to-door to pray for households.

Last year, Bethel Women raised over \$13,000 to send to North Texas District Women's Missions in offerings taken during Bible study and two Girlfriends' events. They also gave to prison ministry, Pleasant Hills Children's Home, and assisted Mercy Chefs as they reached out to hurricane victims.

Every time the women gather for Bible study, leaders give women an opportunity to give to missions. "We want them to understand that part of going is giving, and they partner with God when they give. When they hear a

need, their hearts respond. They always exceed our expectations," Johnston says.

Bethel Women's leaders are asking the Lord for 200 women who are established in the discipline of daily Bible reading and prayer. McAfee concludes, "We know when the storm comes, the Word will hold them. We know women are called to purpose and enabled as they hear from God. We want to see a mighty army rise up to fill God's call right here, right now."

“

The goal of Bethel Women's Bible Study is to awaken women to love the Word, for daily time with God. When the study ends, they will want to meet with Him every day.

~ ReGina Johnston

”

National Women's Ministries Scholarships for International Students Worthy, **CHOSEN**, Valued

by Karlene Gannon

Partner with us in this 2019 National Women's Ministries missions project by providing student scholarships for international women students to attend Bible school. This year we are featuring three Bible schools in the Latin America Caribbean region:

- **Caribbean School of Theology—the schools of Suriname, Guyana, and Jamaica**
- **Bible school in Villahermosa Tabasco, Mexico**
- **River Plate Bible Institute, Buenos Aires, Argentina**

Women of all ages and status are called into the ministry. They need to prepare, and be equipped to take their place in service and evangelism. These women students desperately need your financial gift for scholarships.

CHOSEN “We are amazed at the level of sacrifice and commitment that our students offer the Lord. Their calling is the focus of their life. Serving Christ is everything to them.”

~ Rocky Grams, Missionary to Buenos Aires, Argentina



Students from River Plate Bible Institute minister to children in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Karlene Gannon is the former missions and ministries coordinator for National Women's Ministries.



Meet Faith Ojo, a student at the Pan-Africa Theological Seminary (PATHS) in Lomé, Togo.

Faith is in the doctoral-level program and serves as a Bible college teacher at the West Africa Advanced School of Theology.

She writes, “Studying at the doctoral level is extremely important because we have a great need for African women in theological training, especially Pentecostal. This study is preparing me to meet the high demand of Pentecostal African women theologians who qualify to both teach and write.”

“Many more women would love to study at this level and be useful for the Kingdom in various ways, but funding remains a major challenge. The scholarship is a huge motivation for women studying at this level.”



Send your contribution to:
**Scholarships for
International Students**
1445 N. Boonville Ave.
Springfield, MO 65802

or give online at
women.ag.org

Connecting Ministry Wives to Each Other

She is **NOT** Alone

by Debbie Cole, Northwest Ministry Network

When I first became a minister's wife, I was given a book written in 1950 called *The Pastor's Wife* by Carolyn P. Blackwood. This older book has tidbits of instruction that bring laughter today—like keeping a one-piece zippered dress by the front door in the event a parishioner stops by.

Blackwood also stated, "The minister's wife has the happiest lot of any woman even if she is a marked woman." Though I believe the image of ministry wives has changed over the years, many of those wives still feel marked as the woman who has it all—when she is actually struggling to find herself in the middle of it all.

Sadly, the number one struggle of ministry wives in the 1950s was loneliness. A recent survey revealed the same startling truth today. How can we connect these amazing leaders and help them know they are not alone? Who reaches out to these women? Where do ministry wives go

for encouragement, friendship, and direction when they struggle?

I have found that the best support comes from another ministry wife. She will understand my complex role as a leader.

As a Fellowship, we need to find ways to connect ministry wives so they can encourage one another.

Her Green Room is a great resource for the ministry wife, bringing connection through blogs, videos, and an online community. Getting a cup of coffee and visiting Her Green Room connects the ministry wife with others like herself and reminds her that many are in the same position she is in.

Though she may be marked and wearing a one-piece zippered dress, she is not alone. Being a

ministry wife has its difficulties but when she shares with others, she will recognize that her role is fun, fulfilling, and a wonderful place to serve others. I encourage ministry wives to visit Her Green Room today.



Debbie Cole is the facilitator of *Alongside*, for ministry wives of the Northwest Ministry Network, and host of "Off Script with Debbie," a video series discussing issues facing ministry wives.



Visit hergreenroom.com to find encouraging articles from ministry wives like you! Join our community on Facebook [@hergreenroom](https://www.facebook.com/hergreenroom).

EVERYTHING Changed When Women Prayed



Women of the Potomac Ministry Network intercede for their communities.

Ken Burtram, former superintendent of the Potomac Ministry Network (PMN), had a powerful dream in which women were exiting motor coach buses in a parking lot, as he heard a voice say, "Everything changed when the women went on a prayer tour of our cities!"

Leaders of the Network spent a year preparing, then invited women on a seven-day prayer tour by bus, through the six regions of the Network, covering District of Columbia, and the states of Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia. The tour

took place June 19-24, 2017. During the day, the buses stopped at several scheduled locations in the region. Each evening, a regional prayer rally was open to everyone.

Johnese Burtram, Ken's wife,

led the event, along with Brenda Burns, PMN communications facilitator, Linda Webb, Women's Ministries director, and many volunteers.

Johnese recalls,

"In the early stages of planning for the Everything Changed prayer tour, someone asked, 'What do you mean, everything changed?' We didn't want to put God in a

“
The level of anticipation and intensity increased as we felt the presence of God in our prayers.
”

box. We let Him decide what 'everything' would mean."

About 80 women met the first day of the tour at Potomac Park by Washington Monument. They headed by bus to Morgantown, West Virginia. Over the next seven days, the group traveled 1,323 miles through each of the six regions.

Linda remembers, "We prayed for government, economic systems, educational and intellectual systems, family, church, media, arts, and entertainment in each region." Johnese said they also prayed for cities and towns, for government complexes, universities and urban communities, for historic sites, and for the Network's thirty-two church planters.

Most days began around 8 a.m., and ended by 10 p.m. The group logged 64 collective hours in the Word, hearing testimonies, worshipping, and praying. Each day ended with a regional prayer rally. Over 1,200 people attended these rallies over the seven days of the tour.

"The level of anticipation and intensity increased as we felt the presence of God in our prayers. His immediate attention to our requests encouraged our hearts and strengthened us," Johnese observed.

Linda agreed. "Instead of exhaustion on day seven, we were refreshed and invigorated."

Read more about the prayer tour; see more photos; and watch a summary video at: potomacag.infioplex.com/ecpm.



I'm Not LESS Than

When Paul and Julie Richardson arrived in Licking, Missouri—population 3,100—to pastor the Assemblies of God church, the attendance was around 20 people. Now, seven years later, they are running 120.

Discovering the need. In 2016, a staff pastor who works with Texas County emergency responders noticed a high percentage of single moms in the community. Pastor Richardson researched the need.

“We found over 200 single moms and 100 single dads in our area. The church staff started praying about this need,” reflected Richardson. “We also have grandparents raising their grandchildren.” The area has a high poverty rate, which might contribute to more single parents needing help.

After praying, Pastor Richardson presented an idea in a church business meeting. Richardson remembers, “The Holy Spirit moved as I shared that we are called to minister to single parents in our community.”

Creating excitement. As Pastor Richardson gave ideas for reaching single parents, the congregation immediately became excited about the possibilities. “That excitement has not diminished,” Richardson explains. Southern Missouri District's Women's Ministries

Director Sherry Welch encourages ministry to single moms.

Many women in the congregation had either been single moms themselves or worked with single moms—and knew their stories.



Responding to the need. Now, two to three times annually the congregation reaches out to single parents and grandparents. The church creates a list of items for church families to purchase ahead of the event. The list includes various household items that single parents cannot buy with food stamps or other assistance.

“Rural Compassion's warehouse in Springfield (Missouri) helps us with supplies,” Richardson

shares. Rural Compassion donates items such as dry pasta, hand soap, or sandals for the women.

In a recent outreach, each family received about \$240 in supplies. The church served 42 family units, representing 81 children.

On the event morning, single moms line up at the door. Younger women, men, and youth help load the single moms' cars. The older women encourage the single moms by talking with them, giving them a hug, then walking them to their cars.

“It's really a beautiful thing to watch,” Richardson says.

All volunteers are from the congregation.

One mom said, “I have not had a new pair of shoes in years, because our money bought clothes for my child.”

Another mom was in tears when she received a package of hot dogs, because she and her kids had wanted some, but could not afford them.

Seeing growth. The church is growing. Richardson states, “At first, we did not see numerical growth from these outreaches, but we saw spiritual growth and compassion within the congregation, which was my heart as a pastor. The moms tell us they are so grateful for a church that doesn't look down on them as being ‘less than’ because they are raising a child alone.”

Somewhere *Over* the Rainbow

by Darla Knoth

“Extreme sadness and depression” are words that come to mind when talking to a woman dealing with infertility or pregnancy loss. At least, in Bethany McGrath’s mind, those words came to the forefront.

“I was also angry so many times,” Bethany recalls. “I wanted to stop ministry and move far away.” Bethany didn’t stop loving God, but she often questioned His decisions.



Griffin, Bethany, and Myler McGrath

Photo credit: Brandy Strain © 2016

Multiple Miscarriages. Bethany and husband Griffin, Phoenix, Arizona, tried to get pregnant for a year before seeing a doctor — not knowing that she was already pregnant. However, a few weeks later, Bethany had a miscarriage. In the next two years, Bethany would miscarry five more times, involving emergency room visits and surgeries.

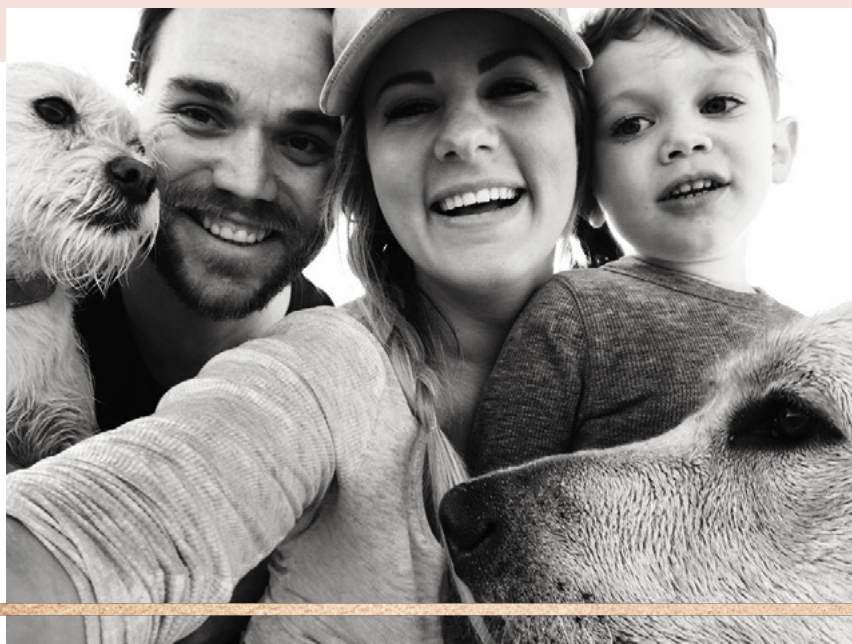
No shared memories. For Ashley Houston, and husband, Scott, Irvine, California, miscarriage meant no shared memories with others. Even though loved ones surrounded them, “we felt we walked through this alone, in isolation,” Ashley remembers. She used social media to discuss her feelings. “Others felt sad for me but didn’t have the same sense of loss—they couldn’t empathize. At first, I didn’t know what I should talk about.”

Ashley is now grateful to talk about this topic—and wants positive results from her miscarriage experience. She and Scott have been married six years, and have a five-year-old son, Jude. “I got pregnant with him nine months after we were married, even though we didn’t plan to start a family so soon.” Since then, Ashley has miscarried twice.

“Five months after Jude was born, I lost my sister-in-law, a very painful time. In that moment, I wanted to be healthier.” Ashley started losing weight, then found out she was pregnant. However, close to the first anniversary of her sister-in-law’s death, Ashley miscarried. “I remember feeling this incredible loss . . . when I hadn’t even known this ‘person.’” She had not felt this degree of depression at any other time.

Ashley says a doctor tells a woman who miscarries that it proves she can get pregnant, and to try again. She and Scott kept trying for another baby, but every month, results were negative. Ovulation tests became a depressing chore. Ashley felt release when the due date of her miscarried baby arrived. “I felt like I was going to be OK,” she remembers.

Bethany shares that one in four women have miscarried, and one in eight women are infertile. “Whether or not you know a friend is struggling, odds are that multiple women around you are in this category.” Bethany and Griffin got a “rainbow” baby (born after miscarriage) on the seventh pregnancy. Baby Myler was born in early 2017.



Scott, Ashley, and Jude Houston

Seek support. Both women agree that strong church support is very helpful for a couple walking through miscarriage. “Our pastor was amazing at reaching out to us, calling and checking in,” Ashley recalls. “The church should not be afraid of this conversation. We need to minister to those in infertility, miscarriage, infant loss.” She suggests if the church knows of others struggling, sharing experiences will help couples know they are not alone.

“Just having friends who weren’t afraid to talk with me was very helpful,” Bethany agrees. “I appreciate every person who checked in on me often, and who was OK with me sharing my feelings.”

People who ignored the miscarriages weren’t helpful. Bethany says, “Even a simple ‘I’m sorry’ is often enough, but ignoring us was painful.” She says churches should recognize all women on Mother’s Day—whether they are mothers or not. “It’s one way to love on women who want so badly to be a mom, without singling them out or embarrassing them.”

Bethany shares her perspective on becoming a mom as well. “Being a mom is hard. The pain and loss we went through, all the sleepless nights with a newborn, all the spit up and crankiness, it’s all worth it! Moms, we should not complain about our kids. Let’s see them as a blessing even when they are testing us. And, let’s remember to pray for one another out loud, face-to-face.”

For more information on ministering to those struggling with infertility and miscarriage, and a specific Christmas testimony from Ashley Houston, please visit www.women.ag.org.

DARLA KNOTH is resource development and content editor for National Women’s Ministries.



FIND YOUR DISTRICT—FIND YOUR PLACE

Discover where you belong in Women's Ministries!

Find Your Place

Women's Ministries Directors help women connect as they provide outreaches, retreats, conferences, missions trips, leadership training—and more! Visit **women.ag.org** to find information on the district director for your area. Find your district director—and find your place soon!



NINA ARROYO

**Women's Ministries Director,
Southern Pacific District**

Southern Pacific District encompasses Southern California, Nevada, and Hawaii.

"Our district holds three major events for women: seminar, convention, and retreat. Women receive training, inspiration; they are motivated to face challenges with faith, and to serve the Lord with all their heart," Nina says. "Additionally, they are nourished, refreshed, healed, filled with the Holy Spirit, and blessed beyond measure."

Southern Pacific Women's Ministries holds regional and sectional leadership training events in their seven regions and fourteen sections, and district-wide training sessions. Their office is always open to provide direction and guidance to local coordinators.

Nina and her team also offer eleven ministries for local churches to launch, ranging from Alma Fragil (Fragile Soul—ministry to domestic violence victims), to Mujer Sabia (Wise Woman—ministry to women whose husbands are unbelievers), Toque de Esperanza (Touch of Hope, ministry to single moms), and much more.

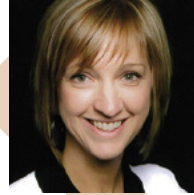




CHRISTAN CAUSEY
Women's Ministries Director,
Southern New England Ministry
Network

Christan says, "Overall, New England is a mission field. Statistics show these states (Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island) to be the most "unchurched" states in the nation. We have the presence of religion, but not a strong presence of Jesus Christ. We have a unique opportunity to show His power."

The director's position exists to encourage, equip, and empower the local women's leaders in each church, Christan says. The district's women's events also focus on discipleship and training local leaders. And Christan is working to express ongoing relationship and community. "We hope to see our large regional events and annual conference as an overflow of what God is doing in local churches throughout the year. We are passionate about women finding their place in Christ, and not in the world. Who you are in Christ matters most!" she concludes.



COLEEN SCHABERG
Women's Ministries Director,
Wyoming Network

Coleen says, "I pray and hope that we offer love to all women—every one of them. And that we endeavor to bring the wholeness of the King into every facet of the lives of those we minister to."

Wyoming Network offers an annual women's conference in the fall and offers some small groups online—since the distance between cities and towns in Wyoming is quite large. "We want each woman affiliated with our events or network to feel accepted, valued, and loved!" Coleen adds.

The network's Women's Ministries has plans to add more missions trips in the future and wants to equip and resource church leaders. They encourage women to have meaningful relationships and assist them in finding growth and purpose. Coleen concludes, "We will continue to cross generational lines! We want women to feel valued and loved."



RESE MOORE
Women's Ministries Director, West Florida District

Women's Ministries in the West Florida District is called Sister 2 Sister. "We strive to support West Florida missionaries. We are responsible to help them with personal and household needs," Reese says. She tours the district annually with missionaries who are home itinerating, helping to connect the women of the district.

Reese also offers the women of West Florida a stateside missions trip each year. They have helped CompAct Family Services in Hot Springs, Arkansas, and U.S. missionaries in Kentucky and Tennessee.

The district holds a yearly retreat for women. Reese took the retreat "on tour" one year and combined small events into a larger one, as well as reaching out to ministry wives. They also offer a Sister TALK event—which stands for training, accessing, learning, and connecting. Held on Saturday, women who attend receive a full day of workshops.

“

Reese concludes:

My desire is to see the gap between generations bridged, to see women healed through restoration, and empowered to do what God has gifted them to do.

”

MINISTRY Resource Consultants

All of these ministries are founded by Assemblies of God members, and are recommended by the National Women's Ministries Department.

ABUSE and ADDICTION RECOVERY

Project Ignite Light

Directed by Pebbles Thompson

Pebbles Thompson discovered that children left investigative doctors' appointments with very little, if any, dignity—compounding the stress and shame of abuse. Project Ignite Light now provides backpacks to abused children, loaded with essential items such as blankets, pajamas, underwear, socks, hygiene items, books, stuffed animals, and more. They will also make presentations for starting a similar ministry in your area. No child should feel alone in the darkness of abuse. IgniteLight.org



Pure Life Ministries

Directed by Steve and Kathy Gallagher

Pure Life Ministries offers a residential program and more, specifically addressing sexual addictions. purelifeministries.org



Abundant Life Ministry Center

Directed by Sue Willis

This ministry offers leadership training and resource materials globally for those desiring to minister to individuals who have suffered the trauma of abuse. Designed to be used within the local church in a small group, one-on-one, or community outreach setting for men and women to receive hope, healing, and restoration from the effects of sexual, physical, emotional, spiritual, and self-inflicted abuse, as well as human trafficking. AbundantLifeMinistryCenter.org



ABORTION RECOVERY

SaveOne: Healing After Abortion

Directed by Sheila Harper

SaveOne is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping men and women heal spiritually, mentally, and emotionally after making the choice of abortion. SaveOne.org



ADOPTION / FOSTER CARE

CompAct Family Services

Directed by Jay Mooney

CompAct Family Services' vision, by the year 2020, includes offering children's homes, foster care, maternity homes, adoptions, and therapeutic care. Their campus is located in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

CompAct Family Services also offers CompaCareSM, a Compassion Care System Manual, that helps churches minister to vulnerable children and families who need loving support. Visit: compactfamilyservices.org



COMPASSION

Convoy of Hope: Convoy Women

Directed by Doree Donaldson

Convoy of Hope believes every woman is valuable, no matter her age, where she lives, or what she looks like. We are teaching this truth to women and girls all around the world. convoyofhope.org/what-we-do/womens-empowerment

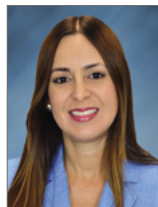


DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS

Life in Your Hands

Directed by Bethzaida Garcia

Bethzaida says, "As a domestic violence survivor, activist, and counselor, my commitment and responsibility will always be to bring current information and services that contribute to the eradication of domestic violence and other social problems." lifeinyourhands.org.



MARRIAGE

Marriage Encounter

Directed by Mark and Becky Rhoades

Marriage Encounter is a week-end away for couples who want to take their marriage from good to great. agme.org



HUMAN TRAFFICKING RESCUE

F.R.E.E. International

Directed by Michael Bartel

F.R.E.E. exists until modern-day slavery no longer exists. F.R.E.E. works to abolish sex and labor trafficking primarily in the U.S. with innovative collaborations through public and private partnerships. freeinternational.org



Project Rescue

Directed by David and Beth Grant

Project Rescue helps rescue and restore victims of sexual slavery in the love and power of Jesus Christ. projectrescue.com



Nurture Hope

Directed by Carla Marroquin

Protect Me Project and Serve4Justice are anti-trafficking initiatives using prevention methods to address abuse and pornography. protectmeproject.org



The Global Center for Women and Justice (GCWJ)

Directed by Sandra Morgan

GCWJ is a faith-based organization that exists to advance the global status of women through research, education, advocacy, collaboration, and hope. vanguard.edu/research/gcwj



MINISTRY TO GIRLS

Girls Ministries

Directed by Mandy Groot

Girls Ministries has one goal: to see every girl moving toward a deep relationship with Jesus Christ and to realize her importance and potential. We want to equip you with resources to mentor and disciple girls. No other resource has this variety of activities, focused discipleship, or a proven track record of helping girls become confident, godly women who are leaders in the church, home, and world. Your girls will get



- Adventures, activities, and games that show them how discovering God's Word is fun!
- Lessons in valuable life skills from sportsmanship and integrity, to friendship and outreach.
- One-on-one help in choosing actions, attitudes, and behaviors that please God.

For more information, please e-mail us at ngm@ag.org, or visit ngm.ag.org.

MINISTRY TO MUSLIM WOMEN

Say Hello

Directed by Lynda Hausfeld

A simple act of friendship can initiate a Muslim woman's journey to Jesus. "Say Hello" wants to help Christian women everywhere know that they and Muslim women have everything to gain by being friends. Our most important likeness is our need for Jesus, and our defining difference is that Christian women know Him, but most Muslim women have never even once heard His story. Visit sayhelloinfo.com.



MINISTRY TO MINISTRY FAMILIES

Seasons of Life

Directed by Rose Hinton,
U.S. Missionary, Specialized
Chaplaincy



The mission of this ministry is to enhance the longevity, life quality, and ministry effectiveness of vocational ministry personnel by providing member care services, biblical counseling, and referrals. Contact Information: Cell: (417) 230-0600 or e-mail: rosehinton@gmail.com.

RURAL COMPASSION

Rural Compassion

Directed by Steve Donaldson



Forty-three percent of America's counties are rural. In 2012, an estimated 18 percent of rural America was at or below the poverty line compared to 16 percent of urban America. Steve Donaldson, director of Rural Compassion, says, "If we are not intentional in going to rural communities, no one would go there. An organization like Rural Compassion is able to come in and resource that community, and lift their arms in reaching goals they've already set for themselves. We are seeing incredible results." Visit ruralcompassion.org.

SENIOR ADULTS

Senior Adult Ministries

Directed by Wes Bartel



Senior Adult Ministries wants to encourage those in our Fellowship who are 50 and over to participate in activities that foster spiritual growth and health, age-level educational pursuits, evangelistic outreach, and wholesome fellowship events. To promote strong focal points of need so that people may be involved in an area that interests them. Visit sam.ag.org.

SEXUAL IDENTITY

Linda Seiler shares candidly from her own struggles and triumph coupled with a strong scriptural foundation and the latest scientific research regarding the origins of homosexuality and gender dysphoria. Visit lindaseiler.com.



ReStory Ministries is committed to providing biblical resources and training that address homosexuality and gender identity to local AG churches so that you can minister with confidence to those you care about. Visit restoryministries.org.



SINGLE MOMS

Lois Breit is ordained and an Assemblies of God U.S. missionary to single moms—and raised her five children as a single mother. She knows the abandonment and hopelessness many single moms face. When she was desperate, Lois turned to a local church for help. Because this church went the extra mile to love her grieving, angry, broken family, their destiny was forever changed. Visit loisbreit.com.



SPECIAL NEEDS

CompassionLink Disability Ministry

Coordinated by Thomas and Angelia Carpenter



Over one billion people live with a disability, the majority of whom have never had an adequate presentation of the gospel. Truly this is the world's largest unreached people group, for it crosses every ethnic boundary and culture. With God's help, we will minister directly to the disabled and their families, as well as train local churches and leaders in helping people with disabilities find their purpose in the body of Christ. Visit compassionlink.org.

WIDOWS

Marlene Craft is an Assemblies of God U.S. missionary to widows. She enjoys sharing her story, along with encouraging widows to help them in fulfilling what the Lord has for them in this season of their life. Visit widowslink.org.

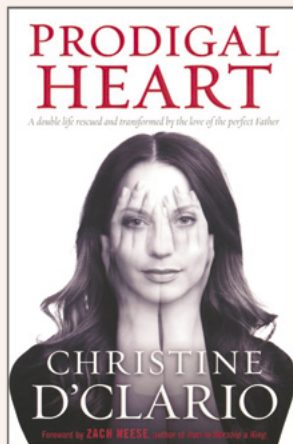


WOMEN MINISTERS

Network of Women Ministers Directed by Crystal Martin



The Network of Women Ministers exists to connect and inspire women ministers. We are dedicated to building community among our women ministers and providing training opportunities. We want to equip districts and the local church body to release women to leadership within their churches and allow younger generations to see God's Spirit poured out on all flesh. Visit womenministers.ag.org.



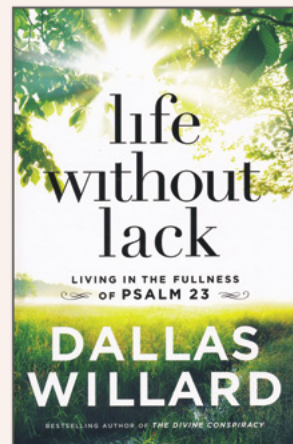
Prodigal Heart

by Christine D'Clario

In *Prodigal Heart*, Christine D'Clario shares her compelling story and the joy she experienced in surrendering completely to God. For all those who think their scars are too deep to be healed, Christine brings you hope that any life is worth saving.

Paper, 5½ x 8½", 208 pages

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|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| English | 03MV1327 | \$15.99 |
| Spanish | 03MV1427 | \$11.99 |



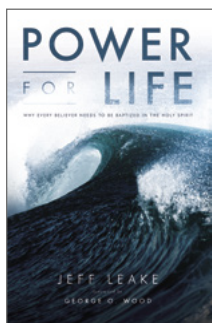
Life Without Lack

by Dallas Willard

In this unique work of never-before-published teaching, Dallas Willard revolutionizes our understanding of Psalm 23. Written with Willard's characteristic gentle wisdom, *Life Without Lack* shows how the more we live in God's presence, the more we experience peace and freedom.

Hardcover, 6 x 9", 224 pages

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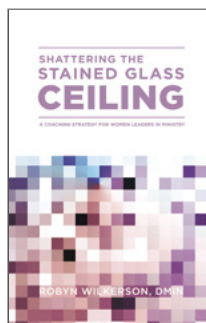


Power for Life

by Jeff Leake

Power for Life helps every believer understand who they are in Christ and who the Holy Spirit is within their lives. Read this book with a hunger to see God do all He is able to do through your life. Paper, 5½ x 8½", 144 pages

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Shattering the Stained Glass Ceiling

by Robyn Wilkerson

Are you willing to create positive change in your life to fulfill your leadership potential? Let Robyn Wilkerson's leadership coaching strategies help you find new ways to understand your leadership skills to gain better results.

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Resources for Women



Voyage: Trusting Jesus in Uncharted Waters

by Kay Burnett

The voyage of life is anything but predictable and safe. Kay Burnett reminds us to trust in God, our Captain. Paper, 5½ x 8½", 144 pages



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by Kerry Clarendau

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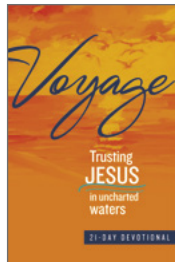
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Voyage Devotional

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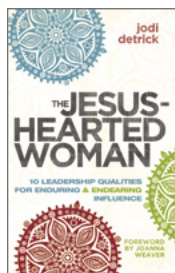
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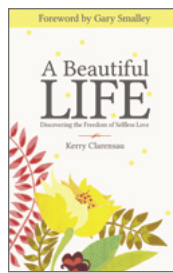
The Jesus-Hearted Woman

by Jodi Detrick

Jodi Detrick weaves together insight and wisdom from her many years of leadership. Great for individual or group study. Paper, 5½ x 8½", 328 pages



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A Beautiful Life

by Kerry Clarendau

Explore in this devotional how you can become the person you were created to be. Paper, 5½ x 8½", 240 pages



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A WORD FROM KAY

Thank you for joining us in reaching women!

At times, every person—every woman—whether a believer or unbeliever, feels anonymous, unseen, unnoticed, and unloved. As believers, we have the message of hope for each other and for our hurting world. “You are valued, loved, cherished . . . Adored—By the God Who Sees You!”

No matter our circumstances, God sees us, cares about us, and loves us. A church family is the best environment for women to experience the love of God and to grow in the knowledge of His Word and power.

National Women's Ministries exists to resource the needs of your district or network and local churches as each ministers to women. By partnering with us, through prayer and financial means, you help to ensure that we can continually develop resources that will equip your leaders, increase biblical literacy among women of all ages, reach the lost, and provide discipleship studies for use in district events and local churches.

Thank you, for all you do in ministry to women. We are praying for you. May God give you everything you need to fulfill His call.

ONLINE GIVING

You can give to National Women's Ministries Day and other projects—online!

To give, go to
women.ag.org/donate.

YOU CAN HELP!

You can support these efforts by receiving an offering on or around
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You can designate your offering with **Offering Code: 280 051 0200444**



Individual Offering Envelopes

Distribute these free, full-color, dollar-size offering envelopes to assist with a National Women's Ministries offering. Order early! 6 1/4 x 3 3/8, Pkg of 25

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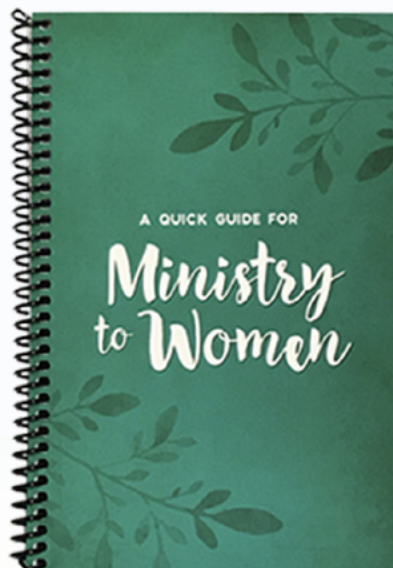
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Start building an even more effective ministry, right now! With *A Quick Guide for Ministry to Women*, you'll get the need-to-know info on

- Women's unique ministry needs and abilities
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- Ministry tips, ideas, and more!



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Spanish 02MV4216 \$12.99

Visit WomensQuickGuide.ag.org to find out more and download free leader resources.



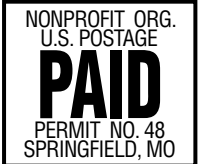
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National Women's Ministries Day

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2019

(or any time throughout the year!)

