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*Entrusted  
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# Ministering *To Women*

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## Join with us to reach and minister to women!

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# Welcome to *Ministering to Women in 2020!*

Our theme for 2020 is “Entrusted with Treasure.”

Second Timothy 1:14 instructs us to,



“Guard, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, the treasure which has been entrusted to you” (2 Timothy 1:14, NASB).

Entrusted evokes a sense of call, purpose, and responsibility. The treasure entrusted to us is the gospel. We are called to guard it well, as the most priceless of all treasures. Messages bombard us every day through social media sites and blogs, music, books, and movies. Many are not based on truth, and yet they compete for our attention, seeking to influence us. It is paramount that we know God’s Word, the Bible, and stand on its precepts.

We long for leaders who are wholly devoted to God and who value and champion others along the way. Essentially, we need spiritually strong women today—trustworthy women—who will live and lead well, basing every area of their lives on the treasure of the truth of God. We believe God is calling women to press in to a place of total surrender to Him—to empower them for such a time as this.

May this theme pierce your heart and call you higher, expand your spiritual capacity, and increase your faithfulness to live and lead well. May our AG Women arise across this nation and lead the way with holiness, faithfulness, and integrity.

We pray that this magazine will be a helpful resource throughout the coming year as you minister and lead. We are here to serve you!

In pursuit of Him,

Kay Burnett  
National Director, AG Women

*By Ashley Grant*

# Women Teaching Women

## The Command for Multigenerational Ministry

Periodicals, educational institutions, and spiritual leaders are all weighing in on this up-and-coming approach to discipleship and evangelism. But is a multigenerational approach to ministry in fact a new idea and is it an important angle in ministry, or is it just another fad that will come and then be gone?

The new  
hot phrase in  
many religious  
circles is  
“multigenerational  
ministry.”

While the term *multi-*generational is not specifically used in the Bible, there are countless examples of intergenerational ministry and even a command to teach and instruct with this approach as early in Scripture as Deuteronomy. Deuteronomy 4:9 (ESV) gives a direct order from the Lord to teach and instruct “your children and your children’s children.” That’s multigenerational ministry! In addition, Titus 2:3–5 (CSB) guides the older women to “teach what is good, [to] encourage the younger women.” So, whether the hype around this topic is here to stay, this approach to biblical instruction is not merely a suggestion, it’s a command.

While it can be easy to target a specific age group, thinking about ways to incorporate several different generations in ministry while maintaining relevance to each can seem like a daunting task. One of the easiest ways to begin introducing a multigenerational approach to ministry to women in the church is with group discipleship.

Jane Heeke, AG Kansas Ministry Network’s Women’s Ministries director, created a 9-month discipleship program, Women of Valor, that has recently seen huge success. The program utilizes a group discipleship approach mixed with individual mentorship. The program has reached women just entering their teenage years all the way up to women in their mid-80s. Heeke believes the reason this program is able to be a cross-generational success is that “every woman, despite her age, has a hunger to know the deep things of God. Biblical truths and scriptural fundamentals feed the God-given desires that all women have from childhood through our senior years.”





Likewise, church planter Loralie Crabtree, Massachusetts, has seen incredible collaboration between women of different generations in her most recent church planting journey. “One thing that was really important to us as we started our church plant was to have a multiplicity of voices at the table to feed into what we call *group discernment*.” Crabtree’s approach to church planting called for a collaborative team of diverse men and women to help mold and shape the church to be the most effective in its community. Crabtree has elicited the help of women in their 20s to women in their 70s. Crabtree states, “It is important to understand how those from different generations feel because when we forge the way together, it lasts longer and takes us further.”

While it may often seem that the older generations are passing on knowledge to the younger generation, Assemblies of God General Superintendent Doug Clay states that all parties can learn, grow, and benefit from one another. “I believe that in a multigenerational approach to ministry, it is not just good for a younger attendee to be around a seasoned saint. The passion of the younger generation can have a positive influence on the older group.”

While age-appropriate ministry still remains a crucial part of church discipleship and evangelism, creating space for generations to intersect is both beneficial and biblical. For more resources on ministering to women, visit [women.ag.org](https://women.ag.org)

# Chasing Truth

## A Call to Bible Engagement

Mindy is a typical young mom. She says, “There’s a lot of information out there that’s literally at my fingertips. I can find recipes, outfit ideas, and a never-ending supply of sharable Bible verses, all without even trying.

*Get an  
unfiltered look  
at what  
the Bible  
actually says.*

“I’m probably listening to voices on social media more than I like to admit. I’m reading global memes about Christianity, and spending more time posting about reading my Bible, than actually reading it. I don’t even have a relationship with some of these people with platforms. But I’m allowing them to shape my thoughts and ideas about the Bible.”

### “Who am I even listening to?”

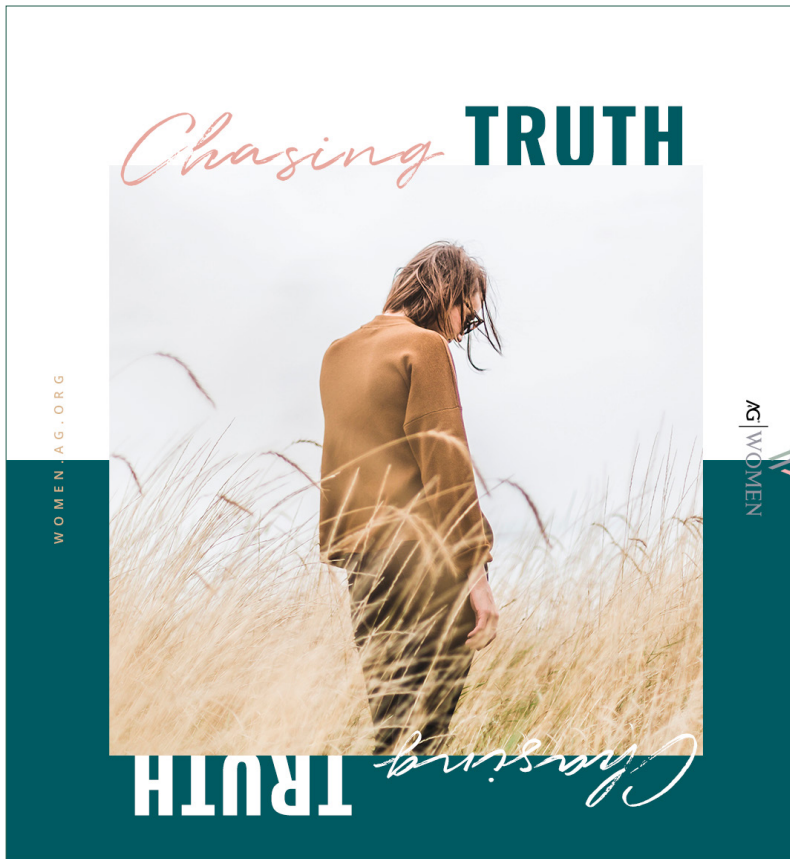
What are you chasing? Are you like Mindy, chasing the perfect world through social media, but not discovering what the Bible actually says to you?

We invite you to join us in Chasing Truth.

This is a journey to read the Bible cover to cover with women across the nation in 2020.

Discover the transformational power of God’s Word. We will offer:

- our downloadable reading plan
- weekly devotionals
- memory verses
- a team of Bible scholars
- social media posts
- and more!



## Did you know?

A person who reads the Bible four times a week or more:

- Is **228 percent** more likely to share their faith with others?
- Is **407 percent** more likely to memorize Scriptures?
- Is **59 percent** less likely to view pornography?
- Is **30 percent** less likely to struggle with loneliness?<sup>1</sup>

Join the Chasing Truth community online at [women.ag.org](https://women.ag.org), or on Facebook, search for “Chasing Truth | AG Women.”



## A message from Kay!

What would happen if a movement began among women across our nation to faithfully read their Bibles daily, in community, asking the Holy Spirit to teach them God's truth? What would happen if more and more women began to rise up and answer God's call to go deeper in their walk with Him, to study and know His Word, and to live their lives truly based on His Word? What would happen if even just our AG women began to cry out to God to make them holy, strong in Him, and brave—to influence their world? I believe if this movement among women happened, we would see revival across our nation. We invite you to join us in Chasing Truth in 2020!

<sup>1</sup>Arnold Cole and Pamela Caudill Ovwigho, “Bible Engagement as the Key to Spiritual Growth: A Research Synthesis,” Center for Bible Engagement, [https://bttbfiles.com/web/docs/cbe/Research\\_Synthesis\\_Bible\\_Engagement\\_and\\_Spiritual\\_Growth\\_Aug2012.pdf](https://bttbfiles.com/web/docs/cbe/Research_Synthesis_Bible_Engagement_and_Spiritual_Growth_Aug2012.pdf) (accessed September 20, 2019).





# Authentic and Effective

Offering small groups for women  
will build community and relationship

Leading a small group could be intimidating or fun, depending on your viewpoint. Let's look at some of the questions you may have as you consider what small groups to add to your church's ministry to women.

Small groups offer fellowship and support as a woman journeys through her life. Joining a small group is a great way for a woman to be involved, and for her to receive instruction.

Your leadership team should ask these questions as you discuss forming small groups for the women of your church:

- Why do we need this group?
- Who will attend this group?
- Who will lead this group?
- What will the format of each session of this group look like?
- When will this group meet?
- How will we promote this group?

Think about offering the following types of groups for women:

- **Fellowship groups**—for women to feel a sense of belonging. Senior women can meet for coffee, mothers of preschoolers can schedule play dates, or all ages could join in on a game night.
- **Common interest groups**—a cooking class, pottery class, or hiking excursion could help join women of like interests.
- **Prayer groups**—focusing on the prayer needs of the entire church and community is a great source of strength for the women involved.
- **Compassion groups**—when women meet needs in the community, their own lives are enriched.
- **Study groups**—because women tend to process verbally, study groups help them internalize biblical truths in a powerful way.
- **Growth groups**—allow for true discipleship to happen among women as you form groups around life-stage instruction, or issue-related support.



## Five Stages of Small Groups

Consider these stages as you begin forming small groups.<sup>1</sup>

### Forming Stage

In this stage, the leader provides a high degree of guidance to all group members. Each individual member's role is unclear, and the process for groups to meet is not established. During this stage, members may be more discreet with their behavior, driven by a desire to be accepted by everyone else in the group. Conflict, controversy, misunderstanding, and personal opinions are avoided during this stage.

1

### Storming Stage

2

Dominating group members may emerge in this stage of your small group. Dispute and competition may be at its greatest as group members start understanding the purpose of the group. Those group members who are less confrontational will stay where they feel more comfortable. Questions about group policy, responsibilities, and structure will tend to arise during the storming stage.

### Norming Stage

In this stage, belonging to the group becomes enjoyable for each member. Group interaction is easier, cooperation and productivity are abundant, and group members become good at communication, bonding, and mutual respect.

If there is a dispute or disruption, the group's members resolve it easily and the group gets back on track. A group facilitator in this stage can step back and let group members take initiative.

3

### Performing Stage

4

At this stage, group members become more united. Morale is high as group members actively acknowledge what each group member brings in terms of talents, skills, and experience. Members become more flexible, and begin to trust each other in this stage. They become willing to adapt according to the needs of the group.

### Adjourning Stage

This stage is more difficult to define; it is usually reached when the purpose of the group is successfully completed. Group members start to drift away from each other and the group as a whole.

5

<sup>1</sup>Bruce W. Tuckman, "Developmental sequence in small groups." Psychological Bulletin. 63(6):384-99.  
<http://openvce.net/sites/default/files/Tuckman1965DevelopmentalSequence.PDF> Accessed September 20, 2019.

We believe that women everywhere have received a charge from God to stand strong and be faithful, courageous under fire, humble, and prayerful. The 2020 theme is:

# Entrusted with Treasure

*“Guard, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, the treasure which has been entrusted to you.”*

2 Timothy 1:14 (NASB)

Have you ever experienced a situation where you had to make a choice to keep quiet or take a stand you knew God wanted you to take? That's exactly the situation Daniel (of the Old Testament) found himself in. In spite of all that Daniel saw in his lifetime—he remained faithful to the God who revealed mysteries and shut the mouth of lions.

**National AG Women's Day is Sunday, February 23, 2020, for Assemblies of God churches across the United States and worldwide to celebrate the women of their congregations.**

Maybe it was Daniel's life and character that caused the apostle Paul to write to Timothy later and encourage him to “guard . . . the treasure which has been entrusted to you” (NASB). Women today can take Paul's message to heart, learn from Daniel, and guard the treasure of the gospel.

Kay Burnett, national director, AG Women, has written the 2020 theme book, *Trustworthy: A Study of the Life and Character of Daniel*. Learn more about this incredible new format, response-driven study book on page 11.

Find out more about Entrusted with Treasure on the following pages of this magazine, and by visiting [women.ag.org](http://women.ag.org) for free downloadables. Don't forget to follow our social media on **Facebook** (search AG Women) and **Instagram** (@agwomens)!

# Trustworthy

## A Study of the Life and Character of Daniel

By Kay Burnett

In 2020, we invite you to delve into the study of an exemplary man, a man of great character and courage, a man of humility, prayerfulness, and vision—someone who was rewarded for faithfulness. The Book of Daniel is full of lessons from the life and character of Daniel—starting with his time as a young captive and following his life as a faithful prophet.

For this study, we introduce an innovative, beautiful, two-color, response-driven study format that the women of your church will enjoy. Short videos introduce each session, followed by brief daily readings and thought-provoking questions for individual study or group discussion.

### PREVIEW OF EACH SESSION:

**Week 1:** Faithful

**Week 2:** Courageous

**Week 3:** Humble

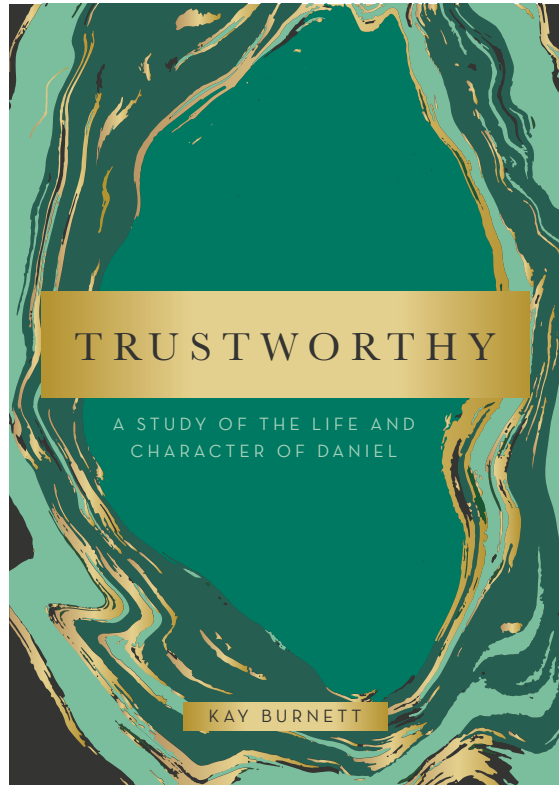
**Week 4:** Steadfast

**Week 5:** Visionary

**Week 6:** Prayerful

**Week 7:** Promised

Daniel's life is a paradigm any Christ-follower would want to imitate.



English	02MV4120	\$14.99
	10 or more,	\$12.99 ea.
Spanish	02MV4121	\$14.99
	10 or more,	\$12.99 ea.

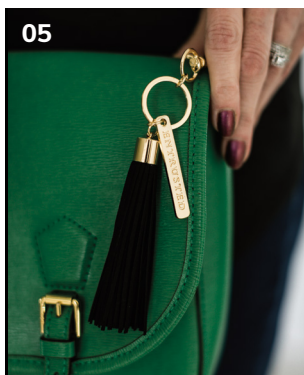
### EACH SESSION WILL INCLUDE:

- Video introduction
- Chapter study from the Book of Daniel
- Questions for personal reflection or group discussion throughout the session
- Space for journaling thoughts throughout the session



# Entrusted

*Products and Resources*





- 01 GIFT KIT** Excellent for gifts or event favors. Includes coaster, mug, 12-day devotional, and gift box. (Gift box not sold separately.)

English	08MV2717	\$14.99
Spanish	08MV2718	\$14.99

- 02 MUG** Black mug with "Entrusted" on one side and "2 Timothy 1:14" imprinted in gold on the other. Ceramic, 16 oz., hand wash only, matte exterior finish.

English	17MV8304	\$7.99
	12 or more,	\$6.99 ea.
Spanish	17MV8305	\$7.99
	12 or more,	\$6.99 ea.

(any combination of English and Spanish)

- 03 COASTER** Malachite image encircled with "2 Timothy 1:14" and "Entrusted with Treasure." Matte finish, cork back, 4.25" dia.

English	17MV8302	\$4.79
	10 or more,	\$4.49 ea.
Spanish	17MV8303	\$4.79
	10 or more,	\$4.49 ea.

(any combination of English and Spanish)

- 04 DEVOTIONAL** Connect to God's call to walk in holiness and integrity with this 12-day devotional. Paper, 4<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x 4<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>", 32 pages

English	02MV4118	\$2.49
	10 or more,	\$1.99 ea.
Spanish	02MV4119	\$2.49
	10 or more,	\$1.99 ea.

- 05 TASSEL KEYCHAIN** Features lobster claw clasp, split key ring, black tassel, and gold bar debossed with "ENTRUSTED."



English	17MV8300	\$6.99
	10 or more,	\$5.99 ea.
Spanish	17MV8301	\$6.99
	10 or more,	\$5.99 ea.

(any combination of English and Spanish)

- 06 BULLETINS** Features Entrusted theme art with blank inner page. 11 x 8½" flat, folds to 5½ x 8½", pkg of 25

English	08MV2707	\$3.99
	10 or more pkgs,	\$3.49 ea.
Spanish	08MV2708	\$3.99
	10 or more pkgs,	\$3.49 ea.

- 07 TRUSTWORTHY BOOK** Be encouraged to take up God's call on your life to walk in holiness and integrity like Daniel. Paper, 5½ x 8½", 168 pages

 English	02MV4120	\$14.99
	10 or more,	\$12.99 ea.
 Spanish	02MV4121	\$14.99
	10 or more,	\$12.99 ea.

- 08 BOOKMARKS** An affordable gift option for your women's events. 2 x 7", pkg of 10

English	13MV6778	\$1.99
	10 or more pkgs,	\$1.79 ea.
Spanish	13MV6779	\$1.99
	10 or more pkgs,	\$1.79 ea.

- 09 V-NECK T-SHIRT** Emerald green with white imprint. Semi-fitted, 100% cotton. (Not pre-shrunk.)

08MV2720	Small	\$12.99
08MV2721	Medium	\$12.99
08MV2722	Large	\$12.99
08MV2723	XL	\$12.99
08MV2724	2XL	\$14.99
08MV2725	3XL	\$16.99

10 or more, \$10.99 ea.

(any combination of sizes, English and Spanish)

- 10 LONG SLEEVE TUNIC** Keep warm, cozy, and classy with this long sleeve tunic featuring a gold foil theme imprint that says, "Entrusted with Treasure," and "2 Timothy 1:14." Black frost, rib knit elongated cuffs, 50/25/25 poly/combed ring-spun cotton/rayon.

08MV2700	Small	\$21.99
08MV2701	Medium	\$21.99
08MV2702	Large	\$21.99
08MV2703	XL	\$21.99
08MV2704	2XL	\$23.99
08MV2705	3XL	\$25.99
08MV2706	4XL	\$27.99

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(any combination of sizes, English and Spanish)

**RESOURCE MAGAZINE** Order copies for your ministry leaders. 8 x 10¾", 32 pages

English	75MV2622	\$9.99
Spanish	75MV2623	\$9.99

Returns must be made within 30 days of invoice date. Please contact our Customer Service team at 855.642.2011 for your Returns Merchandise Authorization number.



# Download these theme resources

for your 2020 women's events!



*Notecards*

This downloadable 5 x 7" notecard is perfect for thanking your ministry team after the big event or sending a note of encouragement to a friend, all while keeping with the 2020 theme, "Entrusted with Treasure."



*Name Badge*

Help attendees at your event get acquainted with these downloadable name badges using the "Entrusted with Treasure" theme art. Download this art, then use Avery™ name badge label #8395 to print your labels!



*Event Invitations*

Invite women personally and individually to your conference or event with these downloadable event invitations, customizable to your specific event, and featuring the 2020 theme, "Entrusted with Treasure."

Visit [women.ag.org](http://women.ag.org) for these downloadables and more!

English  
02MV4214  
\$12.99

Spanish  
02MV4216  
\$12.99



## *A Quick Guide for Ministry to Women*

Start building an even more effective ministry, right now! With this Quick Guide, you'll get the need-to-know info on:

- Women's unique ministry needs and abilities
- How to empower women through your ministry
- Ministry tips, ideas, and more!

By Nonda Houston

# Things I've Learned

## Take-Aways after Ten Years of Ministry to Women

### 1. The enemy will try to talk you out of your assignment.

People, circumstances, and even your inner voice will try to convince you that you are not the right person for this job. Remember, God is the one who anoints, appoints, and opens the doors. Don't give up!

### 2. Unless the culture changes, there won't be change.

God could download a blueprint from heaven, but a toxic culture will never let it get off the ground. Change the culture by the stories you tell, the heroes you make, and the things you celebrate.

### 3. It's all about relationships.

We are not an institution. We are fam-il-y! What if the question to ask is not about what programs to offer, but how we can better foster relationship growth? The most effective ministry I've been a part of has always flowed out of connectedness and unity.

### 4. Names are important (women's ministry vs. ministry to women)

It's not just about being cute. Names define us. It's time to move past names that have negative baggage associated with them and choose a name that reflects your vision of inclusion and relevance for all women.

### 5. Being a hero maker is more important than being a hero.

As a leader, my fruit grows on other people's trees. Champion others by affirming the dormant or undeveloped gifts and talents you see in them.

### 6. Ministry to women is more important now than ever before.

Women are more isolated, disconnected, and lonely than ever before. We need each other for emotional, spiritual, and even physical health.

### 7. Reaching the next generation is more important today.

Our society's next generation is also the most unreached generation. They are missing in action from the church. Spiritual moms and grandmas need to go after their daughters.

### 8. Don't underestimate the power of encouragement.

Encouragement is no little thing. Author John Maxwell says that 51 percent of leadership is giving encouragement. Everyone can be an encourager.

NONDA HOUSTON is Southern California Ministry Network's women's director.



# Light the Way Project

Uniting AG Women to change the world through giving

## About Us

Light the Way exists to unite women around the cause of missions giving for the victimized, marginalized, and more. Together, we work to reach the lost, restore the broken, and resource ministries and individual women who are seeking truth.

## How We Help

### REACH

We partner with ministries that share the gospel through compassionate outreach.

### RESTORE

We support those who champion the broken, the victimized, and the marginalized.

### RESOURCE

We fund ministries that provide resources to disciple women in every stage of life.

## How It Works

1. Give to the Light the Way Project.
2. Inspire women around you to give.
3. Watch how God uses women to change the world.

Spread the Word about Giving!

Get everyone involved in the Light the Way effort with these downloadable resources, including:

- Logo
- Social media postables
- Video
- Bulletin
- Slides
- and more!



Visit [women.ag.org/LightTheWay](https://women.ag.org/LightTheWay).

Light the Way is committed to sound stewardship of your gift. Because of this commitment, funds given to the Light the Way Project will be distributed as 80 percent ministry and 20 percent administration.





## 2020 Light the Way Project

Calcutta Mercy is a nonprofit organization on a mission to help the poor of Calcutta, India. Our goal is to give everyone in Calcutta access to food, education, and quality medical care.

Here are a few ways you can help.



### THALASSEMIA TREATMENT

Each month a sponsorship allows a child to receive blood transfusions at no cost to their family and experience a comfortable, complimentary stay at the hospital with their guardians. \$35 monthly

### MOTHER/ CHILD CENTER

When mothers travel long and far for their babies to receive specialized medical care at Mercy Hospital, a safe place to lodge, eat, and recover is a glimmer of joy in the midst of challenging times. \$2,000 monthly



Light the Way—Uniting AG Women to change the world through giving.



# Secrets in the Sanctuary

*An interview with Julie Perkin Davenport*





**Julie Perkin Davenport was married for thirteen years to an extremely successful and charismatic minister with dark secrets that shattered the marriage and their lives.**

With two young daughters, one suffering a life-threatening illness, Julie wrestled with uncertainty when her husband had several affairs and shamed her into keeping silent. Julie's book, *Secrets in the Sanctuary*, shares her testimony to help other ministry wives who might be in the same situation. For more information, visit Julie's website at: [juliedavenport.com](http://juliedavenport.com).

**Julie, you say this in your book:** "One of the lowest moments of my life was the night before the presentation of the resignation letter from Brice\* to the church we pastored. As I slept on a foam mattress on the floor beside Faith's bed at St. Jude Hospital, I awoke with my mind racing. Life as I had known it was ending abruptly. My marriage was ending, we were leaving our church family whom I dearly loved, and we were selling our home. I had no idea what the future held."

**This type of fear and sorrow is what might keep ministry wives from stepping forward. What advice can you give wives who find themselves in this situation?**

It was very difficult to come forward, because it seemed we lost everything. However, I found an even deeper sense of relief and peace when I stopped carrying around the secrets. Secrets make us sick and are destructive. If we continue to hide the sin and don't deal with it, the fallout is much greater than losing a current position of ministry.

**You also say,** "If you have never been in an abusive relationship, you cannot fathom why someone would stay. Only those who have been there understand. I just kept hoping it

would get better. The taste of hope is a powerful emotion. Even if one only has a little hope, it can be enough to keep trying."

**What would you say to someone in this situation?**

I would encourage them to go to someone for counsel. It is easier to deal with an issue when it is small before it grows into something that can ruin your life. You will not only be helping yourself, but you will also be helping your abuser, rather than enabling him to continue in the destructive cycle of abuse.

**Could you comment on the following statement from your book as well?**

"When trust is broken, it eats away at the basic covenant that holds a marriage together. Trust can be broken in a moment, but it takes much longer to rebuild. I couldn't heal as I should have because Brice refused to accept responsibility for his failures in this area. He repeatedly told me that I had not truly forgiven him if I continued to talk about it."

Both trust and forgiveness are a process. We can choose to forgive in our hearts, but it takes time to deal with the hurt. It is even more difficult to simply choose to trust—it can be restored with God's help, but the person who has broken the trust needs to realize that it must be rebuilt over time.

\*Names have been changed.

## Find Your Community

Ministry wives need community and encouragement from other ministry wives walking through the same experiences. Request to join our AG Women group of ministry wives on **Facebook** at: **Her Green Room | Ministry Wives**.

Answer three simple questions to be approved for this private group where ministry wives are refreshed and revived by each other! We hope to see you soon!



Pastor Ted Cederblom attended Abdul's graduation from Missouri State University.

*By Darla Knoth*

## Who Is the One?

A few years ago, Ted Cederblom, lead pastor of Life360 Church, Springfield, Missouri, sat in a local coffee shop, waiting for someone to walk through the door. He had never met this person. He only knew the man was from Africa, and his name was Abdul.

An improbable friendship began that day, and a story spanning three nations—the United States, a boy from Panama, and a student from Africa. This is the story of the heart of God who pursues the lost.

Jesus shared these words in Matthew that speak to the cry of God's heart. "If a man has

a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray?" (Matthew 18:12, ESV).

Cederblom was born in the Dominican Republic to missionary parents, then moved with his family to Panama, where only three Assemblies of God churches existed at that time. Now Panama has over 1,000 churches. "I believe in a God who cares for the lost," Cederblom says.

He came from pastoring in California to Springfield at age 39 to pastor Life360



Church. Cederblom prayed, “God, help me make a difference for your Kingdom.” The Lord drew him to the story of the lost sheep in Matthew 18.

God spoke to Cederblom’s heart, “Ted, you’re forgetting to ‘go look for the one.’” Ted said, “I realized I didn’t truly know anyone who didn’t know Jesus.”

Cederblom asks, “Who is the lost sheep you are looking for? Who is the one person?”

Abdul was a student from Africa attending Missouri State University in Springfield. Through mutual connections, Cederblom and Abdul met that day for coffee. Abdul started attending Ted’s church.

Abdul shared his Muslim belief about the five steps to Paradise; Cederblom talked about the love of Jesus. Abdul taught Cederblom African culture. “In Africa, we honor our parents. My father doesn’t walk anywhere without one of his sons walking with him.” This impacted Cederblom to move his family in with his retired parents, in order to care for them.

When Abdul moved back to Africa after graduating, Cederblom was unsure if Abdul had accepted Jesus. “I prayed for him every day. He was the ‘one sheep’ Jesus cares about.”

God was not finished with the story of Abdul.

Cederblom providentially met some new missionaries assigned to Abdul’s country. They were willing to try to meet Abdul. “But remember,” the missionary warned, “the country we are going to covers an area as large as the U.S. Midwest—the distance from Chicago to Houston.”

As the missionaries settled in their new African home, they emailed Abdul, knowing only a small chance existed to connect with him. Miraculously, Abdul lived only three blocks from their house.

The missionary has since reported that Abdul has professed faith in Jesus as his Savior, in spite of political and religious unrest nearby. Cederblom says, “God is not willing that any should perish!”

## Who Is Your One?

Here are some questions Pastor Ted Cederblom suggests asking ourselves:

- Am I so busy doing the Lord’s work that I have missed the Lord’s harvest?
- Who is the lost sheep I am personally searching for?
- What steps can I take in the next 24 hours to begin the journey?
- What is the name of the person I will reach out to?

Encourage the women of your church to develop a plan for meeting unsaved women in your community, then put that plan in action quickly—to see the lost come to Jesus.

By Cindy Thomas

# Building Stronger Families and Stronger Churches

**During dinner at almost any restaurant, an alarming pattern is evident. Younger couples use phones to finish up work while kids check social media. Even older couples often eat with little conversation.**

For many, things aren't much better at home. A quick search produces multiple articles about the detrimental effect of screen time on family relationships. Communication is easier than ever before, but it seems couples are doing less of it.

Dr. Robert Crosby, new president of EMERGE Counseling Services, and his wife, Pamela, believe the church can change that pattern. During 25 years of pastoring in New York, Boston, and Ohio, they realized that strong families make strong churches which in turn bless communities. Robert refers to God's promise to bless Abraham so he could, in turn, bless nations (Genesis 18:18). The Book of Hebrews applies the Abrahamic promise to Christians.

**The Crosbys believe many communication problems in marriage are rooted in gender differences.**

"The church has focused on breadth—reaching lots of people—but sometimes neglected depth—equipping people for relationships," says Crosby. The Crosbys in 2010 founded Teaming Life, dedicated to building stronger couples, families, and church teams. In May 2019, they were invited to lead EMERGE.

The Crosbys believe many communication problems in marriage are rooted in gender differences. Crosby says, "For men, the barrier is usually ego; for women it is expectations." Men turn to their jobs or man caves, not realizing their wives need security and provision. Women, on the other hand, expect their home, kids, and husband to be a certain way. When expectations aren't met, married women feel lonely, excluded by the very things that feed their husband's ego. The gap between expectations and reality fills with stress.

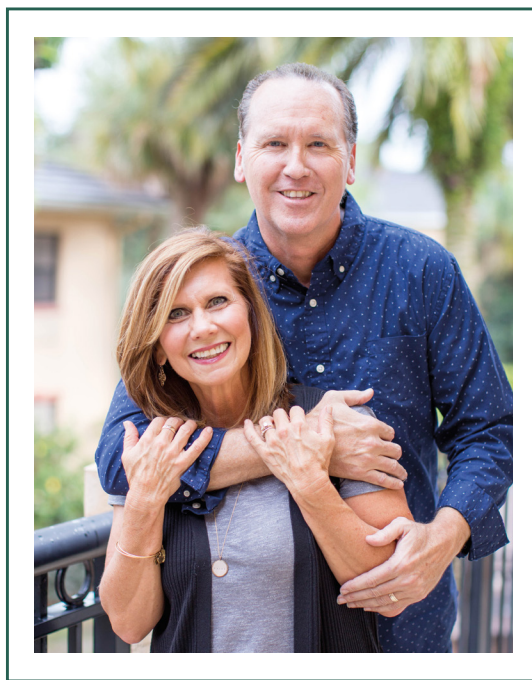
Comedians joke about gender differences as though the chasm just can't be breached. However, in their new book, *The Will of a Man, The Way of a Woman*, the Crosbys explore differences as part of God's design. Reflecting on tough periods in their own marriage, they show how differences can actually be complementary strengths, as a couple truly becomes one.

With many couples, especially wives, suffering in silence or actually headed for divorce, how can the church help? First of all, says Robert Crosby, "The church must prioritize the authority of Scripture, using the Bible's many examples of the strengths of both men and women." There is a balancing effect to a man's will and a woman's way. "Women don't want to compete with men but to use their God-given gifts and make sure women's needs are understood."

Teaching on gender differences, while obviously valuable to couples, does not exclude singles. The concept can help women come to terms with a previous difficult relationship or prepare for marriage. Others find the information valuable in workplaces and friendships. Single parents learn the importance of mentorship for children, one way families can bless others as their own relationships improve.

As churches grow, so does the likelihood that women have been or are currently in really tough places. For example, the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence indicates that approximately one in four women experience abuse by an intimate partner at some point. Others deal with spousal substance abuse or infidelity. To help these women, leaders should know local resources for safety and for capable Christian counseling to address vulnerability and co-dependency.

Pamela Crosby urges women's leaders to set a goal that no woman walks a hard path alone. "We need women who are mature in their faith investing in new Christ-followers," she says. "And we absolutely must be Spirit-led, discerning when a woman needs someone to ask how she's doing. Be aware of the woman who comes to church alone, or the one who needs a hug." Leaders can learn to ask great questions. With sensitivity to the appropriate environment—small group, large group, or one-on-one—the right question can encourage a woman to open up. And while an online presence is necessary these days, churches must also create opportunities for face-to-face conversation.



The ministry approach at Teaming Life and now at EMERGE can be summed up by the concept of honor, a biblical principle. In today's culture of harsh words and anxiety-filled relationships, Christians show the love of Christ as they honor spouses and fellow believers, celebrate strengths, and serve each other.



# Building Community, Offering Hope

AG Women's District directors minister to women across the nation

*Women's Ministries directors lead ministry to women and build community as they strengthen women spiritually to walk out their calling. Connect with your district director to receive all she offers to the women of your district or network. Visit [women.ag.org/Connect/Connect-to-Your-District](https://women.ag.org/Connect/Connect-to-Your-District) to find your district soon!*

## Linda Bottoms

Rocky Mountain  
Ministry Network



Linda serves as a pastor's wife, worship leader, speaker, and mentor in Colorado Springs, and as the Women's Ministries director for the Rocky Mountain Ministry Network. The district is divided into three regions: East Slope, West Slope, and Utah, each with its own culture and demographics. Rocky Mountain Women annually offers a Colorado women's conference, a Utah conference, a missions trip, leadership conference, and online meetings.

Linda says, "We are striving to become more relevant to the needs of women by targeting as many age groups and demographics as possible. Our goals are to bring in dynamic, nationally known speakers for events, provide leadership training for churches struggling to find good women leaders, and to connect with the local church. I also have a heart for seeing young women step into their calling."

"The women in our churches are crying out for a place to belong, for friendship, and direction. We have women who are ready to step into what God has for them, but need the direction and encouragement to do it. It's an exciting time to serve in ministry to women!"



Rocky Mountain Ministry Network

## Mirian Maria

Spanish Eastern  
District



Mirian Maria has the distinct background of being raised in a Dominican Republic pastor's home, even though she was not born into that home. "I grew up as the pastor's daughter in a very poor environment, but where the evidences of faith were enormously rich!" she adds. Mirian and her husband, Reverend Josue Maria, later immigrated to the United States, where they planted a church in New Jersey nine years ago.

In 2018, Mirian was asked to serve as Women's Ministries director for the Spanish Eastern district. She says, "It's an honor to raise up women of different ethnicities, fostering genuine love without prejudice."

The Spanish Eastern district is divided into 18 sections and six regions, serving 460 churches. Each section has 15 to 20 leaders. Annually, the district provides a convention, a camp, and a seminar for women. During these events, Mirian and her team offer sessions to train women's leaders.

Additionally, the women of the Spanish Eastern district have access to these ministries:

- **Ministerio Rispa:** Ministry to mothers who have children in jail
- **Ministerio Mujeres Divorciadas:** Ministry to women who have experienced divorce
- **Ministerio Edad de Oro:** Ministry to senior adult women
- **Ministerio de Intercesión:** Ministry that provides and promotes prayer and intercession

- **Ministerio de mujeres profesionales:** Ministry to professional women
- **Ministerio de Madres Solteras:** Ministry to single moms
- **Ministerio Madre interesada en educación:** Ministry to moms interested in pursuing education

Mirian concludes, "I keep my eyes on Jesus, and set a loving example for each woman, so she can exude the same to others and bring expansion to her life, her family, the church—and the district!"

## Nonda Houston

SoCal Network



Nonda and Gordon Houston were married 37 years ago, raised three sons and one daughter, and now have a "slew of grands—seven with number eight coming this fall!" They pastored San Jacinto Assembly of God for 22 years before Gordon was elected to serve the SoCal Network as assistant superintendent. Two months later, Nonda was appointed Women's director for the network. "It was by far the scariest 'yes' I've ever said," she recalls.



SoCal Network women

Now, 10 years later, Nonda says, “I sit under the leadership of a very visionary team. I have been given tremendous freedom to develop leaders, grow groups, and reach people for Jesus.”

The SoCal Network’s mandate is to gather, equip, and mobilize women. Annually, Nonda’s team provides:

- Five to seven leadership training venues in different regions of the network
- Six retreats
- The Brilliance conference
- A missions trip

“My number one job is to resource the local women’s leader,” Nonda asserts. About four years ago, she added a Hispanic women’s team to grow ministry to Spanish-speaking women. Mariam Saravia, the network’s Hispanic women’s director, and Nonda strategically minister side by side to show unity. Nonda believes this season has been nothing short of a miracle and has brought healing, empowerment, and vision for all.

Nonda concludes, “My prayer has always been more about creating a movement than implementing a program. Challenging women to rise to new heights, walking in their purpose and destiny, is my passion, because it has been my journey. He has the blueprint for Southern California women, and that is all I desire.”

**Lilia (Lily) Rodriguez**  
Texas Louisiana Hispanic District



Lilia and Manuel Rodriguez were high school sweethearts who met in 10th grade. When he asked her to church, she accepted the Lord at age 16. “I was the first in my family to accept

the Lord,” Lilia remembers. After Manuel and Lilia married, the pastor asked Lilia to teach the youth of the church. “You are teachable and ask good questions—so I know you’ll teach the Word,” he said.

Now Lilia serves as Women’s Ministries director for the Texas Louisiana Hispanic district and preaches the Word often. She also serves as senior pastor of East End First Assembly of God, Galveston, Texas, and as the clinical research coordinator for the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston.



Texas Louisiana Hispanic District

Lilia oversees the many events the district offers for women, including a leadership training event for coordinators and local representatives each November, a retreat or camp in the Austin area in April, and the annual women’s convention held the last weekend of August each year. Throughout the year, Lilia provides support to local and sectional events or leadership training wherever she is needed.

When asked about future goals, Lilia says, “I would like for women to understand it’s not about titles or positions; it’s about coming together in one body and one fellowship, and for women to know their identity in Christ. We need to realize that God calls us out of imperfection. We don’t have to be at a certain level for God to use us!”



## A Leadership Resource Review

# Biblical Wisdom *for Relationships*

Everywhere we turn, the potential exists for relational conflict. Whatever our relational experience, we can probably all agree that relationships require a large amount of wisdom.

Ken Sande, author of the best-selling *Peacemaker: A Biblical Guide to Solving Personal Conflict*, is prolific on the topic of relational wisdom. On the website Sande established, he writes, “Relational wisdom, in essence, is the desire and ability to obey Jesus’ timeless command, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart . . . and love your neighbor as yourself’ (Matthew 22:37–39). In modern terms, relational wisdom may be defined as your ability to discern emotions, interests and abilities in yourself and others, to interpret this information in the light of God’s Word, and to use these insights to manage your responses and relationships successfully.” Sande says life is all about relationships.

Also on his website, Sande shares three dimensions of relationships: values, self, and others, and the two dynamics of relationships: awareness (knowledge) and engagement (action). He teaches relationship-building and leadership skills or disciplines that will help a leader identify personal values, and how to apply them to real life.

Sande also shares how to accurately discern and manage our own emotions, thoughts, values, interests, and abilities. And, he points out methods for understanding and empathizing with the experiences, emotions, values, and interests of others, plus serving and resolving differences with others. Four simple acrostics helps leaders apply some of the principles Sande teaches.

A special application of relational wisdom, peacemaking, is “how we draw ourselves and others back inside the relational wisdom circle,” according to Sande. Within this application, he teaches “The Four G’s of Resolving Conflict,” “Four Promises of Forgiveness,” “Seven A’s of Confession,” and “PAUSE Principles of Negotiation.”

Finally, Sande asserts that “unlike IQ (intelligence quotient) and personality, which do not change noticeably after the teen years, your relational wisdom can improve significantly if you are willing to work at it.”

For more information, and access to hundreds of articles  
and videos on relational wisdom, visit [rw360.org](http://rw360.org).

# Ministry Resource Consultants

All of these ministries are affiliated with the Assemblies of God and are recommended by AG Women.

## **ABORTION RECOVERY**

### **SaveOne: Healing After Abortion**

Directed by Sheila Harper  
Visit [saveone.org](http://saveone.org).

## **ABUSE and/or ADDICTION RECOVERY**

### **Project Ignite Light**

Directed by Pebbles Thompson  
Visit [www.ignitelight.org](http://www.ignitelight.org).

### **Pure Life Ministries**

Directed by Steve and Kathy Gallagher  
Visit [purelifeministries.org](http://purelifeministries.org).

### **Abundant Life Ministry Center**

Directed by Sue Willis  
Visit [AbundantLifeMinistryCenter.org](http://AbundantLifeMinistryCenter.org).

### **Adult and Teen Challenge**

Directed by Gary Blackard  
Visit [teenchallengeusa.org](http://teenchallengeusa.org).

## **ADOPTION/FOSTER CARE**

### **CompACT Family Services**

Directed by Jay Mooney  
Visit [compactfamilyservices.org](http://compactfamilyservices.org).

## **HUMAN TRAFFICKING RESCUE**

### **Project Rescue**

Directed by David and Beth Grant  
Visit [projectrescue.com](http://projectrescue.com).

### **F.R.E.E. International**

Directed by Michael Bartel  
Visit [freeinternational.org](http://freeinternational.org).

## **Nurture Hope**

Directed by Carla Marroquin  
Visit [protectmeproject.org](http://protectmeproject.org).

## **The Global Center for Women and Justice**

Directed by Sandra Morgan  
Visit [vanguard.edu/gcwj](http://vanguard.edu/gcwj).

## **COMPASSION**

### **Convoy of Hope: Convoy Women**

Directed by Doree Donaldson  
Visit [convoyofhope.org/what-we-do/womens-empowerment](http://convoyofhope.org/what-we-do/womens-empowerment).

## **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS**

### **Life in Your Hands**

Directed by Bethzaida Garcia  
Visit [lifeinyourhands.org](http://lifeinyourhands.org).

## **MARRIAGE**

### **Marriage Encounter**

Directed by Mark and Becky Rhoades  
Visit [agme.org](http://agme.org)

### **Teaming Life**

Directed by Robert and Pamela Crosby  
Visit [teaminglife.com](http://teaminglife.com)

## **MINISTRY TO MUSLIM WOMEN**

### **Say Hello**

Directed by Lynda Hausfeld  
Visit [sayhelloinfo.com](http://sayhelloinfo.com).

## **RURAL MINISTRY**

### **Rural Compassion**

Directed by Steve Donaldson  
Visit [ruralcompassion.org](http://ruralcompassion.org).

## **SEXUAL IDENTITY**

### **Linda Seiler and ReStory Ministries**

Visit [lindaseiler.com](http://lindaseiler.com). and  
[Restoryministries.org](http://Restoryministries.org)

## **SINGLE MOMS**

Directed by Lois Breit  
Visit [loisbreit.com](http://loisbreit.com).

## **SPECIAL NEEDS**

### **CompassionLink Disability Ministry**

Coordinated by Thomas and Angelia Carpenter  
Visit [compassionlink.org](http://compassionlink.org).

## **WIDOWS**

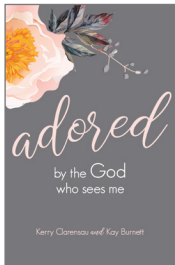
Directed by Marlene Craft  
Visit [widowslink.org](http://widowslink.org).

## **WOMEN MINISTERS**

### **Network of Women Ministers**

Directed by Crystal Martin  
Visit [womenministers.ag.org](http://womenministers.ag.org).

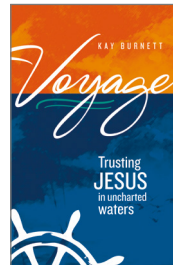
# Additional Women's Resources



## ADORED BY THE GOD WHO SEES ME

by Kerry Clarensau and Kay Burnett  
Encouragement to 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.

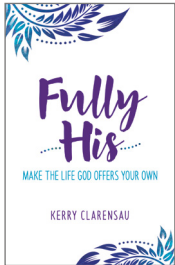


## VOYAGE: TRUSTING JESUS IN UNCHARTED WATERS

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

English	02MV4228	\$12.99
	10 or more,	\$10.99 ea.
Spanish	02MV4229	\$12.99
	10 or more,	\$10.99 ea.

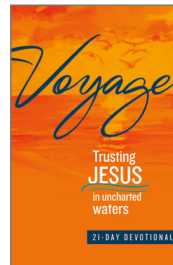
Audiobook available on Audible and iTunes



## FULLY HIS

by Kerry Clarensau  
This 30-day devotional journey will help readers walk through all that God offers us, and how we can embrace being "Fully His." Paper, 5½ x 8½", 104 pages, Spanish 112 pages

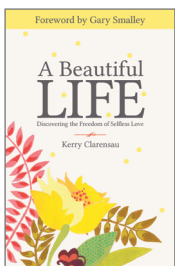
English	02MV4213	\$9.99
	10 or more,	\$7.99 ea.
Spanish	02MV4215	\$9.99
	10 or more,	\$7.99 ea.



## VOYAGE DEVOTIONAL\*

Prepare your heart to trust God in uncharted waters with this 21-day devotional. Paper, 5½ x 8½", 32 pages

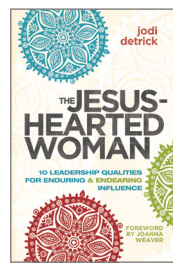
English	02MV4230	\$1.99
Spanish	02MV4231	\$1.99



## A BEAUTIFUL LIFE

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

English	50MV0280	\$14.99
	10 or more,	\$12.99 ea.
Spanish	50MV0281	\$14.99
	10 or more,	\$12.99 ea.



## THE JESUS-HEARTED WOMAN

by Jodi Detrick  
Jodi weaves together memorable stories, biblical insights, and wisdom from her many years of successful leadership. Great for individual or group study. Paper, 5½ x 8½", 328 pages

English	02MV7450	\$17.99
	10 or more,	\$14.99 ea.
Spanish	50MV0178	\$17.99
	10 or more,	\$14.99 ea.

Visit [MyHealthyChurch.com](http://MyHealthyChurch.com) for more past theme resources.

\*While supplies last.



# Join with us

## to reach and minister to women!

*By Kay Burnett*

Often what I see reported in the news can shake me a bit, whether it is news of catastrophic weather patterns, sickness and disease, or violence and terrorism. But God always reminds me of Psalm 75:3, ESV, “When the earth totters, and all its inhabitants, it is I who keep steady its pillars.” What we need in shaky times is a great big powerful dose of

God’s presence and His Word, and leaders who stand firm no matter what comes their way.

*Did you know?*  
You can support  
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or any time during 2020!

The prophet Daniel was just such a leader. He was exiled to the kingdom of Babylon as a young man, likely in his teen years. Surrounded by an idolatrous pagan culture, Daniel lived his life prayerfully, with integrity and courage. Ungodly kings turned to him for wisdom and advice as

they faced their greatest challenges. His character and faithfulness to God elevated him as a leader with influential authority. His own people trusted him, and he led with incredible character and godliness.

We need more Daniels today. We need women who will passionately pursue God no matter the obstacles. We need churches to disciple women through the power of the Holy Spirit so that every woman can live and lead with her roots so deep that no storm or assault can knock her down.

We are here to resource districts, networks, as well as the local church to equip women to stand firm in our culture that continually seeks to blur the lines of truth.

Please prayerfully consider partnering with us as we strive to create and promote resources for ministry to women. We are praying for you. May God’s provision abundantly flow as you faithfully serve and lead.

### Online Giving

You can give to National Women’s Ministries and other projects online! To give, go to:

[women.ag.org/give](https://women.ag.org/give)



### Individual Offering Envelopes

Distribute these free, full-color, dollar-size offering envelopes to assist with an AG Women’s offering. Order early! 6¼ x 3⅝, pkg of 25

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### Stitch-in Envelope

Use the offering envelope in this resource magazine to mail your contribution to AG Women, 1445 N. Boonville Ave., Springfield, MO 65802-1894.

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Join us in Chasing Truth—a journey to read the Bible cover to cover with women across the nation in 2020. For more information, visit [women.ag.org](http://women.ag.org) or on Facebook at “Chasing Truth | AG Women.”

# National Women's Ministries Day

is Sunday, February 23, 2020—  
or celebrate the women of your church  
any time throughout the year!

#EntrustedWithTreasure

 AG Women  @agwomens

