



MINISTERING TO WOMEN IN 2021

2021 Theme:

she *Abides*

Cultivating a Fruitful Life in Jesus

THE **SETTLED SOUL**

THEME BOOK BY JODI DETRICK

SOUL CARE

WITH DR. CAROLYN TENNANT



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WELCOME TO

Ministering to Women in 2021



KAY BURNETT
National Women's Ministries Director

Dear Women's Leader,

The year 2020 crashed in like a storm, taking us all by surprise. When life shakes us to the core, above all else, we can draw close to Jesus.

Our theme for 2021 is *She Abides: Cultivating a Fruitful Life in Jesus*.

John 15:5 describes an abiding life: She who abides in me bears much fruit.

Whether our times are easy and joyful, or unsettling and uncertain, when we abide in Him, He is our source of life and purpose, providing our best, most fruitful life.

As a leader, your example can draw women closer to Jesus. No matter how long we have followed Jesus, we can all press in even deeper, surrendering our all to Him. As leaders, may our lives so exemplify fruitfulness that others will freely say of us, "She abides."

We pray this theme study and these resources empower you as a Jesus-follower and strengthen you as a leader. May the articles, recommended ministries, and ideas inspire you and fortify your ministry.

Prayerfully alongside you in this journey,

A stylized, cursive signature of the name "Kay" in a light gold color.

The Art of Soul Care

BY DR. CAROLYN TENNANT

Genesis 2:7 tells us we are a living soul: “And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul” (KJV).

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A soul without a center feels constantly vulnerable to people or circumstances. But the soul comes alive when it is centered on God.

Your will (or heart) is your intentions, the seat of the choices you make from the core of who you are.

Your mind is your thoughts and feelings, your values and conscience, your desires and appetites.

Your body is your facial expressions, body language, actions, and behaviors.

Your soul integrates, orders and organizes, binds together and connects the other three parts of your self mentioned above.

A soul is healthy when harmony exists between the three entities (will, mind, and body) and God himself. Our saved soul can allow God to harmonize our will to His choices, our mind to His thinking, and our body to His actions.

What should we do to maintain spiritual health?

PRACTICES TO PROTECT YOUR SOUL

Prayer

Prayer heals our souls. Let's allow God to change our thoughts, heal our hurt feelings, and put things back in harmony within our soul. The soul is healed by repentance and confession. Author C.S. Lewis said, “I pray because I can't help myself. . . . It doesn't change God. It changes me.”

Silence and Solitude

You can't keep peace in your soul in stressful times if you don't practice regularly.

God's Word

His Living Word:

- Corrects, judges, and sheds light
- Mirrors our souls; shows us how to adjust

Reading Scripture is not just for “getting through it,” but allowing the Word to speak to us.

Dying Daily

The Gospel of John teaches us to live by these principles:

- I only say what my Father wants me to say.
- I only do what I see my Father doing.
- I don't do anything on my own initiative.

We have to deny our own selves. We can't just blab away out of our own flesh or accomplish what we want on our own or add things to our schedules haphazardly (see Matthew 16:24–28).

The Baptism in the Holy Spirit

Galatians 5:25 (NIV), says, “Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.”

Mark 8:36 (NIV), says, “What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?” We need to pay attention to our soul.



DR. CAROLYN TENNANT is professor emerita at North Central University in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and adjunct faculty for Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, Springfield, Missouri.

Strengthening the Soul of Your Leadership Team

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COMPILED BY DARLA KNOTH





Recognizing that soul care takes time and effort may be the best exercise you and your lead team can discover this year. How could you best help your leaders develop the habits of soul care? We've created resources for helping your team learn more about soul care, by way of free downloadables, explained below.

Consider holding a retreat to walk your leaders through the following points. Or hold a six-week study on a weeknight or meet for Sunday morning sessions. You could also take an entire year to go through any one or all of the resources suggested in the downloads.

Point One

SOUL vs. SELF

To understand what soul care is, we need to also understand what it is not.

John Ortberg, in his bestselling book *Soul Keeping: Caring for the Most Important Part of You*, says this: “The self is not the soul. The self is a stand-alone, do-it-yourself unit, while the soul reminds us we are not made for ourselves or by ourselves. The soul always exists before God. Your soul connects your thoughts, your sensations, your emotions, your will, and integrates them into an entire being.”

We have created a free self-assessment tool for your team called “**Symptoms of Soul Neglect and Soul Health.**” It’s available for you to download from our website, women.ag.org/themes.

Point Two

GOD'S WORD

We can all agree that time in God's Word is essential for renewing our soul.

Help your team become consistent students of God's Word. Statistics show the great benefits of time in God's Word. For instance, a person who reads the Bible at least four times a week is 228 percent more likely to share their faith with others, 407 percent more likely to memorize Scriptures, and 30 percent less likely to struggle with loneliness.¹

We need to read, study, meditate on, and be shaped by reading God's Word.

We have created a tool, "**Meeting with the God of the Bible,**" to help your leaders ready their hearts to meet with God before reading the Bible. Download it from our website, women.ag.org/themes.

Point Three

SIMPLICITY, SILENCE, AND SOLITUDE

Many books and authors have addressed the topics of simplicity, solitude, and silence. Whether a long walk in nature, a full weekend retreat alone, or sitting in a darkened room helps you feel solitude and the ability to practice silence, the point is for us to tune in to God's presence and discover who He is.

Author Dallas Willard once said, "To be in solitude is to choose to do nothing. For extensive



periods of time. All accomplishment is given up. Silence is required to complete solitude for until we enter quietness, the world still lays hold of us. When we go into solitude and silence we stop making demands on God. It is enough that God is God and we are His."

Help your leaders learn the practice of silence and solitude with "**Creating a Sacred Space.**" Download it from our website, women.ag.org/themes.

Point Four

PRAYER

Prayer is talking to God, pouring out your heart to Him. We can't even consider abiding in God if we are not talking to Him. Kay Burnett, in *Come Away with Me: A Personal Retreat Guide*, says, "If Christ, the Son of God, understood this need to spend time alone with God, how much more do we need it?"

We have created a tool, “**Set a Prayer Plan and Expect Powerful Results,**” to help your team leaders with prayer time. You can download it from our website, women.ag.org/themes. See page 13 for more information on ordering the personal retreat guide.

Point Five

JOURNALING

The habit of journaling becomes easier the longer we work at this discipline. Jeff and Mindy Caliguire wrote about journaling in their book *Write for Your Soul: the Whys and Hows of Journaling*. They outline a few reasons to consider journaling:

- **Record your life**—journals give us a place in which to record our insights into the ordinary and extraordinary occurrences of everyday life.
- **Develop your “being” side**—when we journal, we take stock of the present. It helps restore joy.
- **Explore your true self**—Journaling helps answer the questions, “Who am I? Why do I do the things I do? What aspects of my past affect my present?” Even though these are tough questions, we don’t always explore the answers unless we journal.
- **Expose your anxiety**—We all express anxiety in different ways. By record-

ing the struggle on paper, we at least gain the potential to make a wise decision. Exposing anxiety can be the all-important first step.

Help your leaders with journaling by using the tool “**How to Journal.**” Download it from our website, women.ag.org/themes.

Also, download “**Resources for Soul Care,**” and consider studying one or more of the books listed this year with your leadership team, to help them discover the best practices for soul care in their own life. Your team will be stronger and ready to reach others, as you each learn to practice soul care individually in the coming year.

DARLA KNOTH is resource development coordinator for AG Women.

¹Arnold Cole and Pamela Caudill Ovwigbo, “Bible Engagement as the Key to Spiritual Growth: A Research Synthesis.” Center for Bible Engagement, <https://www.centerforbibleengagement.org/research>. Accessed September 22, 2020



she *Abides*

Cultivating a Fruitful Life in Jesus

She who abides in me bears much fruit. (John 15:5).

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Women love to talk about self-care—our hair, our skin, our makeup, our diets, our manicures or pedicures—all good care for the outward body. But when was the last time you concentrated on caring for your soul?

Jesus calls us to a life of abiding in Him, caring for our soul more than we care for our self.

The Greek word for abide is **meno**, a word rich in meaning, conveying a place of profound connectedness to Jesus. Abiding in Jesus calls us to *stay or dwell* with Him, *remain steadfast* in Him, faithfully continue in Him.

We live our most purposeful life grafted into Jesus—the Vine. The Father prunes, shapes, and tends to every branch, nurturing each one to be healthy and produce fruit. Jesus assures us that we will indeed bear fruit, but only if we abide in Him.

Author and speaker Jodi Detrick has written the 2021 theme study, called *The Settled Soul: Tenaciously Abiding with a Tender God*. She says:

In John chapter 15, Jesus uses a metaphor we can all understand to talk about things we might not: what it means to *abide, remain with, settle in* with Him. In the process, He offers a magnificent invitation to experience breathtaking intimacy and enduring fruitfulness, even for ordinary lives like mine.

Find out more about this book and the theme, **She Abides: Cultivating a Fruitful Life in Jesus**, on the following pages of this magazine. Also, visit **women.ag.org** for free theme downloads. Don't forget to follow our social media on **Facebook** (search AG Women) and **Instagram** (@agwomens)!

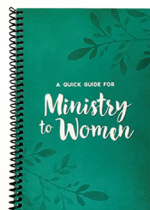
National AG Women's Day is Sunday, February 28, 2021,

for Assemblies of God churches across the United States and worldwide to celebrate the women of their congregations.


How Effective Is Your 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!



Spiral, 5½ x 8½", 112 pages. Spanish 120 pages.

	English.	02MV4214	\$12.99
	Spanish.*	02MV4216	\$12.99

*While supplies last.

Visit **MyHealthyChurch.com** to find out more and download free leader resources.

INTRODUCING THE 2021 THEME

she Abides

Theme Resources

Free Downloadables

We have created these **theme downloads**, complete with the theme graphics, free for you to download on our website, **women.ag.org**.

- Bottle wrap
- Name badge
- Event invitations
- Notecards
- Place cards
- Posters
- NEW! Window/mirror clings—we provide the art and graphics so you can order these online!
- Suggested music
- Suggested sermon
- And more!

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she Abides


2021 THEME PRODUCTS



A The Settled Soul

In this devotional study, Jodi Detrick invites you to take a deep dive into John 15:1-17 and explore what it means to tenaciously abide with Jesus. Enjoy six weeks of daily readings. Perfect for individual or group study, *The Settled Soul* will help you cultivate a soul that lives from being truly settled into Jesus.

Paper, 7 x 9½", 216 pages

	English	02MV4240	\$17.99
	Spanish	02MV4241	\$17.99

10 or more, \$14.99 ea.

**B Come Away with Me . . .
A Personal Retreat Guide**

This guide is designed to help women take a personal retreat and spend some time alone with Jesus, no matter where they are.

Paper, 5½ x 8½", 32 pages

English	02MV4242	\$2.99
Spanish	02MV4243	\$2.99

Gift Kit (not shown)

Show the women in your life or ministry group that you appreciate them with the She Abides Gift Kit. Includes She Abides tote bag, tumbler, and *Come Away with Me . . . A Personal Retreat Guide*.

English	08MV0740	\$18.99
Spanish	08MV0741	\$18.99

Valued at \$25.97

C Bookmark

The She Abides theme bookmark features the theme verse John 15:5 on the front, and a quote from the theme book, *The Settled Soul* on the back.

2 x 7", pkg of 10

English	13MV6780	\$1.99
Spanish	13MV6781	\$1.99

D Tote Bag

The She Abides tote bag is big enough to carry your day-to-day items with you. Beige-natural tote bag imprinted with the She Abides theme logo in red.

Polyester, 15 W x 11½ H x 3¾" D

English	17MV8309	\$7.99
Spanish	17MV8310	\$7.99

E Travel Tumbler

This double wall tumbler features a clear, push-on lid, a swivel lid closure, and a deep red coating over the stainless steel finish. Imprinted with She Abides logo and theme verse in sand. 7½ x 3½", 20 oz., hand wash recommended, do not microwave.

English	17MV8312	\$14.99
Spanish	17MV8313	\$14.99

Resource Magazine (not shown)

Order copies for your ministry leaders.
8½ x 8½", 36 pages

English	75MV2612	\$9.99
Spanish	75MV2614	\$9.99

F T-Shirt

Stand out in this heather red, soft fabric She Abides theme shirt. Imprinted with She Abides theme art in sand.

90/10 Cotton/Poly, fitted silhouette.

Please note: Shirt sizes run small. We recommend buying a size or two up.

English

08MV2748	Adult S	\$10.99
08MV2749	Adult M	\$10.99
08MV2750	Adult L	\$10.99
08MV2751	Adult XL	\$10.99
08MV2752	Adult 2XL	\$12.99
08MV2753	Adult 3XL	\$14.99

Spanish

08MV2756	Adult S	\$10.99
08MV2757	Adult M	\$10.99
08MV2758	Adult L	\$10.99
08MV2759	Adult XL	\$10.99
08MV2760	Adult 2XL	\$12.99
08MV2761	Adult 3XL	\$14.99

G 3/4 Sleeve Scoop

Imprinted with reminders to abide in Jesus, the raw hem around the neckline and soft fabric will keep you looking fashionable and feeling cozy. Women's French terry raglan in sand.

English

08MV2736	Adult S	\$19.99
08MV2737	Adult M	\$19.99
08MV2738	Adult L	\$19.99
08MV2739	Adult XL	\$19.99
08MV2740	Adult 2XL	\$21.99

Spanish

08MV2742	Adult S	\$19.99
08MV2743	Adult M	\$19.99
08MV2744	Adult L	\$19.99
08MV2745	Adult XL	\$19.99
08MV2746	Adult 2XL	\$21.99

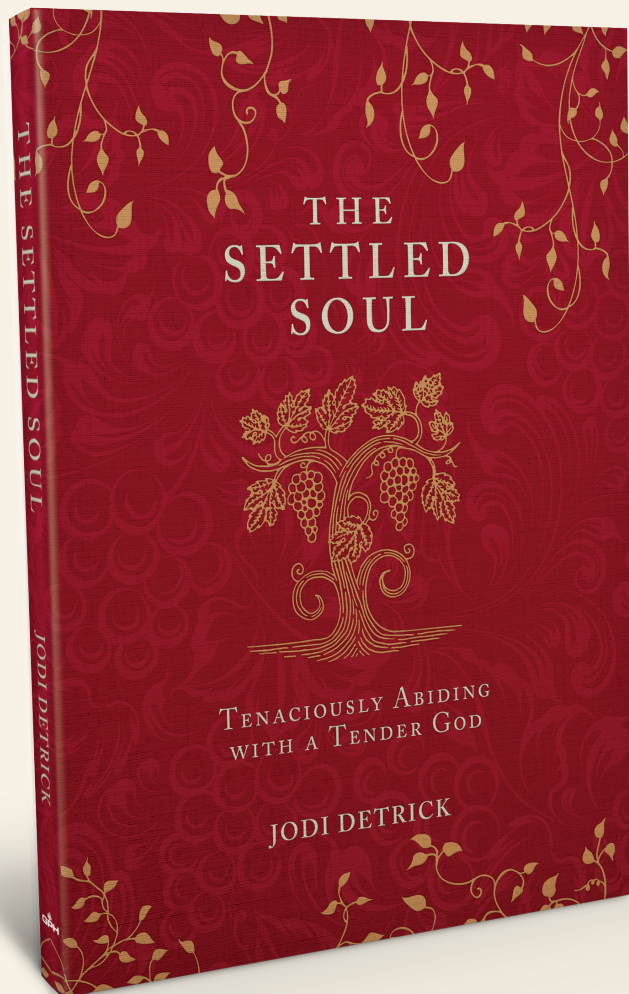
13

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.

The Settled Soul:

Tenaciously Abiding with a Tender God

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JODI DETRICK, DMin, is an author and adjunct professor at Northwest University in Kirkland, Washington. As a personal coach and a speaker for many groups across America, Jodi loves to talk to people at heart level about things that matter most. Jodi lives with her husband, Don, in the Pacific Northwest.



English 02MV4240
10 or more,

\$17.99
\$14.99 ea.



Spanish 02MV4241
10 or more,

\$17.99
\$14.99 ea.

Interview with Jodi

*To help us truly learn to abide in what Jesus has called us to, author Jodi Detrick has written this year's study titled, *The Settled Soul: Tenaciously Abiding with a Tender God*, based on John 15. We asked Jodi a few questions about this book.*

Jodi, what is the basic principle of the book *The Settled Soul: Tenaciously Abiding with a Tender God*?

Many people are living with unsettled souls in this restless world. But in John 15:1–17, Jesus invites us to “unpack our bags” and settle our souls into our tender God, the tender Gardener of our hearts. Abiding in Jesus is the only way we can live truly fruitful, joyful, Godful lives.

How would you suggest readers prepare their heart before beginning to read this book?

Reading through John 15:1–17 once a week (in a different translation each time) would be great heart prep! I think God just wants us to show up with a hungry, open heart, ready to take a fresh look at what might be (to some) a familiar, yet wondrous, metaphor from Jesus.

Do you have a recommendation for readers who want to process what they are reading? Processing is so important!

At the end of each chapter I've included journal prompts to help with that—here are a few (though there are more!):

- o An “aha” I’ve had is:
- o This word or phrase stands out to me:
- o This confuses me—I have questions:
- o What I’m learning about God is:

Do you have any interesting writing quirks you think would be fun for your readers to know?

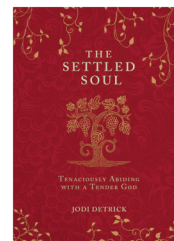
My dear friend and writing mentor, Joanna Weaver, once told me it's good to put on your "diver's helmet" and take a writing deep dive at some point in a new project—which means you go away to a place different from your usual setting, preferably somewhere remote and mostly inaccessible to the noise and interactions of daily life. So Joanna and I actually did that together (pre-pandemic lockdown) earlier in 2020! We went away to a friend's cabin in the mountains where we both worked on our new book projects! That time away was such a gift and set the tone for all the writing I've done since coming home.

What happened in your heart during the progression of writing this book about abiding with God? How did God speak to you during this process?

Oh my! I have a new depth of gratitude at the almost outrageous privilege of living a God-entwined, tenaciously connected-to-Jesus life and all that results from settling my soul into Him. I've also become hyper-aware that without Him, I really can do nothing of value . . . including writing a book! Any fruit that grows from this little branch is the direct result of tenacious attachment to the Vine, Jesus.

LOOKING INSIDE

*The Settled Soul:
Tenaciously Abiding
with a Tender God*



This book offers six weekly segments; each week provides a guide for four days of personal study, plus a bonus "Day Five" study as an option. Each week's study also offers a "So, this is interesting" section that provides historical and/or biblical context and maybe a fun fact or two.

Week One:	My Father Is the Gardener
Week Two:	Settling In
Week Three:	Full Access
Week Four:	Living Loved
Week Five:	Friendied by Jesus
Week Six:	Out on a Limb



2021 Light the Way Project

WOMEN GIVING TO MISSIONS

BY EVELYN KLINGLER

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LIGHT THE WAY

Light the Way unites women around missions giving for the victimized, marginalized, and more. Together, we can reach the lost, restore the broken, and resource ministries and individual women seeking truth.

The 2021 Light the Way Project will focus on two separate areas of the world.

AG World Missions

ASIA—LEFT BEHIND KIDS



Sometimes in our broken world, relationships falter—and abandoned children are one of the results. Many of these children are eventually adopted. But some, perhaps due to disability or appearance, are never chosen. They spend childhood and teen years in an institution. They are left behind.

Thousands of these youth “age out” of the state-run institutions each year in Asia. And because even the best institution is no substitute for family, these left behind kids lack basic life skills. Often disabled, these young adults are terribly ill-equipped for independence, becoming extremely vulnerable. Many end up homeless, imprisoned, or worse.

LIGHT THE WAY



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Our compassionate God has provided a way to shed light in this dark situation. By moving these precious left behind kids to a halfway house, they receive love from houseparents who patiently train them to keep jobs, pay bills, and navigate social relationships. Simultaneously, our team works with local businesses to provide appropriate jobs for these individuals.

We rejoice to see the power that a loving, disciplined atmosphere provides these kids. The smile on each face when they successfully accomplish what they never thought possible is a priceless treasure.

Through Light the Way 2021, the funds you raise will help subsidize rental costs for the halfway house, provide houseparent wages, skills training, and initial employment for the left behind kids. Your gift of love makes a life-changing difference for many young people who, until now, have experienced the worst this world offers. You, instead, can show them the love of the Savior.



“XIAO YANG,* a sweet but naive girl, lived in our halfway house for a year. During this time, she faced some unthinkable difficult situations as she existed outside of an institution for the first time in her life. God provided mercy, a few miracles, and loving Christians for her as she slowly developed new life skills. Today, she works at a five-star hotel as a core staff member and was recently promoted. Knowing the path she has traveled is a true testimony to God’s amazing grace and power.”

—Halfway House Parent

*name has been changed

AG U.S. Missions

DISASTER RELIEF PROJECT

Hurricane Michael—the third-most intense storm on record to hit the United States—made landfall on Thursday, October 10, 2018, in the Florida panhandle, causing \$25 billion in damage.

For Assemblies of God churches in the area, the devastation was great. Of the eighty-five West Florida district churches in the hurricane strike zone, fifty reported damage, twenty of those were severely damaged, and five had catastrophic damage. Those pastors and their families, as well as church families and facilities, have suffered much since the hurricane hit.

The 2021 Light the Way Project will help with further disaster relief for the churches in West Florida who still desperately need assistance.



TOUCH THE WORLD FUND is the overall missions arm of AG Women. The funds provided by districts, churches, and individuals are directed to AG World and U.S. Missions ministries, as well as compassion ministries, and provide furnishing and equipment to a variety of ministry needs. To make donations to Touch the World Fund, visit women.ag.org/give.

**Thank you for helping us
Light the Way—
together—in 2021!**

**How it works:**

- Give to the Light the Way Project.
- Inspire women around you to give.
- Watch how God uses women to change the world!

Visit women.ag.org/light-the-way for more information.

EVELYN KLINGLER is the church leadership and missions specialist for AG Women.

BY VIVIEN SMITH

Leading with Technology

As a leader, technology can sometimes feel overwhelming—but it doesn't have to be! Many tools exist to make your ministry's social media simple. Here's a list of sites and apps to help. You can amp up your ministry's social media presence in no time!

APPS TO USE FOR CREATING POSTS

- **Unfold**—Story templates for Facebook and Instagram.
- **Preview**—Preview what your Instagram feed will look like.
- **Photosplit**—Breaks one image into a mosaic for your Instagram feed.

SITES FOR SCHEDULING CONTENT

- **Later**—Schedule stories and carousel photos, preview your feed, and add links to your Instagram bio with the linkin.bio feature. Visit Later.com.
- **Hootsuite**—Schedule posts for Facebook, IG, and Twitter (Can't schedule videos, carousel photos, or stories) Visit Hootsuite.com.
- **Facebook Creator Studio** (found

within your business Facebook page)—Free; schedule Instagram posts too!

- **Tweetdeck**—Schedule tweets. Visit Tweetdeck.twitter.com.

HELPFUL TUTORIAL SITES

- All things Instagram. See how top brands stay creative with Instagram marketing: business.instagram.com
- Facebook updates and news: about.fb.com/news
- Learn everything you need to know about Facebook: learn.fb.com/en-us

CONTENT SITES

- **Canva**—Watered-down version of Photoshop: www.canva.com
- **Unsplash**—Great for free photos to use in posts: unsplash.com
- **Be.Live**—Streaming site for a live Facebook or YouTube video with a guest from your FB business page. Use your Chrome browser for this: be.live
- **Bitly**—Shortens links for posts: bitly.com

These tools make using social media easier and current; however, it's not what tools you use, but how you use them. Before posting anything, ask yourself, *Who is this for? Why would they want to see this?* Picture a specific woman to create content for; give her a name, an age, a job, etc.

Once you know who she is, figure out what she wants to see and how to create posts she will connect with. Then, get creative! Follow accounts that inspire you, branch out from your normal content—and have fun with it!

Social media is a dynamic tool to create community—exactly what ministry to women should do!

VIVIEN SMITH is the communications strategist for AG Women.

MINISTRY WIVES ON FACEBOOK

If you are a ministry wife looking for a like-minded community, you can find many friends on Facebook at: AG Ministry Wives. You will find others who walk through what you do! Answer three simple questions to be approved for this private group where ministry wives are refreshed and revived by connecting with each other. We hope to see you soon!

When fear and anxiety threaten

Taking Thoughts

The year 2020 was historic in many ways; we'll remember a year when fear threatened to control us. Many women struggle with anxiety and depression—even when we are not living through a world pandemic.

As we move into 2021, how can we as leaders help women cope with negative emotions?

Linda Bottoms, Rocky Mountain District Women's Ministries Director, brought three experts together recently to offer hope over fear and anxiety: **Mariah Bradford**, counselor with Ranch of Hope Counseling Center in Westcliffe, Colorado; **Liz Jans**, school counselor and youth pastor's wife; and **Ashley Varner**, blogger and business owner. Let's listen in!

Linda: **What should we be focusing on in times of fear?**

Ashley: One thing that encourages me is to rely on the truth of God's Word. We see Scripture references, such as Joshua 1:9, CSB, "Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

I benefit from knowing who God is; when we focus on who He is, our fear lessens. Romans 8:39 says that nothing can separate us from God's love. So fears about today or worries about tomorrow are nothing compared to God's love.

Other great Scriptures to concentrate on are: Psalm 34:4; 46:1; 118:6–7; John 14:27; and 1 Peter 5:7.



LINDA BOTTOMS



MARIAH BRADFORD



LIZ JANS



ASHLEY VARNER



Captive



Mariah: We need to recognize our thought life. The Bible tells us that as we think in our heart, so are we (Proverbs 23:7). We can stop our thoughts in the moment, and take them captive to Christ. We can also ask ourselves, *“Why is the anxiety here?”* As we dig deeper to find the answer to that, we can grow.

Liz: When author Steven Covey explains his circle of influence, he shows the difference between concern and control—the middle is what you can control, the outside is what you are concerned about, but can’t control. You can’t control other people—or circumstances. Ask yourself, *“What am I in control of and what am I not in control of?”* Allow yourself to accept only what you can control, and give to God what you can’t control.

Linda: **As we watch the media, we see so much negativity. How can we handle the negativity in our culture today?**

Mariah: Let’s ask ourselves, *“What are healthy boundaries? What schedules can I follow?”* We can control our schedules, our family time, our work time.

We can also concentrate on how God is patient and kind with us. When we call God into our atmosphere, the tone of our life shifts positively.



Linda: What about the woman who deals with fear and anxiety all the time?

Ashley: We can take our thoughts captive. We often feel our circumstances are directing our feelings, but our thoughts are a buffer between circumstances and feelings. Figure out what thoughts are producing negative feelings—and take those thoughts captive.

We say, “I’m afraid,” but the second part of the sentence that starts, “Consider it a great joy,” is “because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance” (James 1:2–3, CSB).

Liz: When we are in the middle of a moment, our emotions become huge.

We have an emotional side and a logical side to our brain. When your emotional side comes into play, take a moment, and just breathe. Ground yourself, think of your senses, what can you see, smell, hear, taste, feel (touch). Reconnect to your logical side—and evaluate your emotions. Develop a daily list of three things you are grateful for that day.

Mariah: We need coping strategies. We know ourselves best. For example, if we know that evenings are worse, or talking to a certain person is hard, or kids’ naptimes are rough, then we can be proactive to develop a plan before we get to that struggle. We can take a walk, put on worship music, turn off the evening news—whatever it takes! Remember a time when you were more positive. Speak to yourself using all your senses to focus on what God has for you.

Take a moment in the fearful season to ask the Lord to show you your identity. Some people don’t know who they are; take time to reflect. Recognize that it’s okay not to be like anyone else; press in to your own identity. God has placed traits inside of you to make you shine. The world needs what you have! Ask God to show you what you can give to others.

For more information, or to view the entire webinar, visit: <https://bit.ly/3hDtH5W>



Equipping Women for the Future



Recently, we have collectively leaned in digitally for everything from extended family online “get-togethers,” to shopping, meetings, and more.

You, as a women’s leader, can now be prepared for the future by accessing training through digital Equip Women leadership units. Go to **Women.ag.org**, choose “Equip Women,” and find units organized into these categories: Growing Spiritually, Developing My Skills, Ministering to Women, Establishing Ministry, and Coordinating Ministry.

Our new learning management system tracks your progress in each unit—now broken into four or five easy lessons per unit! You receive an instant email and certificate when you complete each unit’s quiz. No need to log in or keep track of a password!

FIND TOPICS LIKE:

Growing Spiritually

- The Power of a Woman’s Words
- Strengthening the Soul of Your Leadership
- And more!

Developing My Skills

- Engaging Your Audience
- Managing Conflict
- And more!

Ministering to Women

- Stages of a Woman’s Life
- Ministering to Families of Children with Autism
- And more!

Establishing Ministry

- Forming Small Groups
- Heritage of Ministry to and by Women
- And more!

Coordinating Ministry

- Leading a Bible Study, Parts One and Two
- Hosting a Guest Speaker
- And more!

Trained leaders show women how much they care—when they prepare for the future with the knowledge gained through Equip Women units!

Hosting Events on a *Budget*

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Someone once attributed the saying, “Desperate times call for desperate measures,” to the Greek physician Hippocrates. The saying fits all kinds of situations—including budgets and finances!

Ministries around the globe are recovering from desperate times; possibly your church and leadership team are also. If the budget is tight due to many factors out of your control, ask these questions when planning your event:

- **What is our goal for this event?** The spiritual aspect of an event should be our primary focus. What does God want to do through this event? Has our team prayed and heard from God about what He wants to accomplish?
- **Who could help with finances for this event?** Can the church's general budget help? Could a donor underwrite this event? Could our team find sponsors to fund part of the event, such as one meal or activity?
- **Are we charging enough to cover expenses?** Should we charge more for registration, then offer scholarships to women who would not be able to attend otherwise?
- **Is our event right for the women of our church?** A small church shouldn't feel stressed about providing a big event. Maybe you can scale back the schedule of your event, and go for something more simple and streamlined.
- **Could we save costs on food?** Consider bringing food trucks to the parking lot for women to purchase their own lunch. Or schedule in extra time



for women to go out for lunch—they will enjoy it, and you won't have to provide food at your venue. Be creative!

- **Can we save on speaker costs?** Ask your team to brainstorm ideas to slash the cost of inviting outside speakers. Could you find a speaker locally to cut transportation expense? Or could you use a panel of local women to address certain topics? What about using a speaker by video or livestreaming?
- **Are we spending too much on promotional costs?** Look for free or low-cost avenues to promote your event. Do radio stations in your area provide free community spots? Are you accessing social media to its full advantage? (See pages 20 and 21 for tips!) Can you make announcements or promote during church services?
- **Are we planning far enough ahead?** Extra costs add up when the planning schedule is too tight. For example, when you aren't rushed, you have time to find sales with wholesale vendors online or locally which helps with supply costs. Planning far enough ahead will help you closely trim the budget throughout the process.

Finding solutions like these can help you avoid the desperate feeling of not having enough in the budget for your event!

Leading Women in

Perplexing Times

Women's Ministries directors have led the way in thought-provoking times to bring ministry to women to the forefront across the nation. They have found creative ways to connect with the women of their districts and networks through webinars, Facebook live events, in-person events, and more. Visit women.ag.org to find your district director soon!

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LINDSAY PETRI **Arizona Ministry Network**



Lindsay Petri and her husband John have been married for seventeen years with three beautiful children. After being on staff at a large church for nearly a decade, the Lord laid it on their hearts to sell everything, move their family of five onto a tiny houseboat, and pray about their next step. God then called them to launch Reclaim Church in Peoria, Arizona, three years ago. Lindsay also serves as Arizona Network Women's director.

The women of Arizona are as diverse as the state. Lindsay says, "Our vision is to help women connect with God and one another, develop leaders, and encourage them to live out their God-given purpose. Because we are reaching women from big cities,





rural communities, and Native American reservations, we focus efforts on several big events each year.”

Lindsay starts each year with a tour, traveling through the state with the Network Team. She encourages local women’s leaders in their ministries and dreams. The Imagine Women’s Conference each spring gathers women from across Arizona for a Girl’s Night Out. Local leaders bring women to refresh and encourage them in faith, and are encouraged to bring non-Christian friends and family. Fall retreat gathers women in an intimate, Spirit-filled weekend. Lindsay says, “We focus on equipping women to live out their purpose through leadership development and intentional breakout sessions.” Finally, Arizona Women invest in local and global missions.

When asked about future goals, Lindsay reflects, “We believe God is moving in Arizona women; we are preparing for revival by building a Dream Team of hundreds of volunteers from all over the Network who want to serve at events and in missions opportunities. Together we can reach the women of Arizona!”

ENEDINA GARZA
Northwest Hispanic District



Enedina Garza is originally from Monterrey, Mexico. She married Enedeo Garza, a pastor in Minnesota; the Lord blessed them with three children. The Garzas have now pastored Iglesia Del Valle in Toppenish, Washington, for twenty-two years. Enedina serves the church as assistant pastor, worship director, life coach, and Girls Ministries sponsor. She also serves



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as Women's director for the Northwest Hispanic District, including the states of Oregon, Washington, and Alaska.

Every year, Enedina oversees regional meetings, a women's convention, retreats, leadership seminars, and missions trips. Enedina asserts that women of her district have a heart for missions. She also offers a support group with certified AG Life Coaches, with online training every Monday. Enedina says, "Due to the global pandemic we've lived through this year, our women's convention was virtual—and an unforgettable experience. We reached more women than we could have imagined!"

Enedina's goal is to help women find a place of ministry by supporting them with resources. She says, "We are blessed to have excellent sectional leaders who are key in this task, as they work directly

with local leaders. We want women to be empowered to develop more ministries that help with current needs, and to understand that we are one body in Christ."

BRIGETTE WOOTTON Ohio Ministry Network



Brigitte Wootton was born and raised in Columbus by first-generation Christian parents. When she was a teenager, John Wootton came to Brigitte's church as an intern youth pastor; she reflects, "The rest is history!" The Woottons have four adult children. John is the Ohio Ministry Network's (OMN) district superintendent. Brigitte serves as Women's director.

OMNWomen contains three specific areas of ministry: ministry wives, Women's Ministries, and the Ohio Network of Women Ministers. OMN is divided into fourteen areas; three women serve each area as a representative on the leadership team. This team of forty-two women serve over three hundred churches.

OMNWomen offers retreats, conferences, and connection at network events through the year, culminating in the Time Apart Women's Conference in September. Brigitte says, "We want women to know they are not alone in their walk with God; they are part of a larger group than their church or local community." At Time Apart, OMN-Women introduces the next year's missions project and trip. The altar time is a first priority. The conference also mixes in fun and gifts of appreciation.

Brigette says her goal through all the outreaches is to encourage, resource, and equip individual women to each find the unique purpose God has called her to.

“I am amazed at the level of influence our women have today. Although many work outside

the home, the family is still an area of great responsibility. With this comes great opportunity for women to walk securely in their calling to workplace and family, with the love and saving grace of Jesus Christ. OMNWomen wants to walk alongside them, equipping them in this daily endeavor,” Brigette concludes.



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Women seek God at Time Apart, the Ohio Ministry Network's conference for women.



Recommended Ministries

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

ABORTION RECOVERY

SaveOne: Healing After Abortion

Directed by Sheila Harper

Visit saveone.org.

ABUSE AND/OR ADDICTION RECOVERY

Abundant Life Ministry Center

Directed by Sue Willis

Visit AbundantLifeMinistryCenter.org.

Adult and Teen Challenge

Directed by Gary Blackard

Visit teenchallengeusa.org.

Project Ignite Light

Directed by Pebbles Thompson

Visit www.ignitelight.org.

Pure Life Ministries

Directed by Steve and

Kathy Gallagher

Visit purelifeministries.org.

ADOPTION/FOSTER CARE

COMPACT Family Services

Directed by Jay Mooney

Visit compactfamilyservices.org.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING RESCUE

F.R.E.E. International

Directed by Michael Bartel

Visit freeinternational.org.

Project Rescue

Directed by David and Beth Grant

Visit projectrescue.com.

Protect Me Project

Directed by Carla Marroquin

Visit protectmeproject.org.

COMPASSION

Convoy of Hope: Convoy Women

Directed by Doree Donaldson

Visit convoyofhope.org/what-we-do/womens-empowerment.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS

God's Transforming Grace

Directed by Darla Colinet

Visit godstransforminggrace.com.

MARRIAGE

Marriage Encounter

Directed by Mark and

Becky Rhoades

Visit agme.org.

Teaming Life

Directed by Robert and

Pamela Crosby

Visit teaminglife.com.

RURAL MINISTRY

Rural Compassion

Directed by Steve Donaldson

Visit ruralcompassion.org.

SEXUAL IDENTITY

Linda Seiler and ReStory Ministries

Visit lindaseiler.com. and

Restoryministries.org.

SPECIAL NEEDS

CompassionLink Disability Ministry

Coordinated by Thomas and

Angelia Carpenter

Visit compassionlink.org.

WOMEN AND GIRLS

Ministry to Muslim Women Say Hello

Directed by Lynda Hausfeld

Visit sayhelloinfo.com.

Ministry to Single Moms

Directed by Lois Breit

Visit loisbreit.com.

Ministry to Widows

Directed by Marlene Craft

Visit widowslink.org.

AG National Girls Ministries

Directed by Lori Warning

Visit ngm.ag.org.

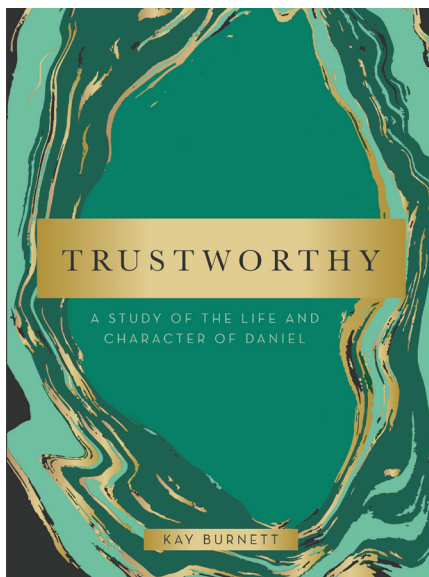
WOMEN MINISTERS

Network of Women Ministers

Directed by Crystal Martin

Visit womenministers.ag.org.

Additional Resources



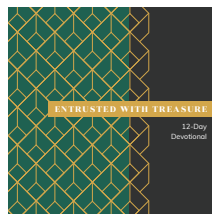
Trustworthy: A Study of the Life and Character of Daniel

By Kay Burnett

Be encouraged to take up God's call on your life to walk in holiness and integrity like Daniel. Paper, 7 x 9½", 168 pages

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trustworthybook.com



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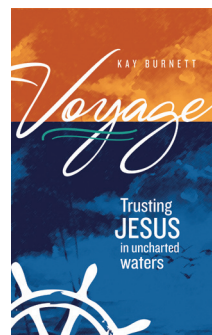


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Spanish	02MV4113	\$9.99;
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Voyage: Trusting Jesus in Uncharted Waters

By Kay Burnett

The voyage of life is anything but predictable and safe, but God calls each believer to this journey. With practical insights, Kay Burnett reminds us to trust in God, our Captain. Paper, 5½ x 8½", 144 pages

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Spanish	02MV4229	\$7.99

Audiobook available on Audible and iTunes (Apple Music)

Visit MyHealthyChurch.com to find out more.

Partner with Us to Reach and Minister to Women

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Our national AG Women's team works year-round to develop resources for ministry to women—with you, the local church leader, in mind. We strive to help you reach women, disciple them, and encourage their study of God's Word.



We pray for you and desire to place biblical resources in your hands, to help you lead no matter where you live and serve, or the size of your church.

You can help support our efforts through prayer and giving financially. Consider hosting a fundraiser or giving a percentage of your ministry's annual earnings to AG Women. You can also receive an offering on or around **National AG Women's Day—February 28—or any time in 2021!**

ONLINE GIVING

You can give to National AG Women's Day and other projects—online! To give, go to women.ag.org/give.

You can designate your offering with
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National Women's Day, February 28, 2021
Please consider taking an offering on or around that date—or at any time in 2021—and send us your gift. We are dedicated to serving you!



Día nacional de la mujer, 28 de febrero, 2021
Agradecemos que se recaudara una ofrenda en esta fecha—o en cualquier otro momento de 2021—¡nuestra misión es servir!

STITCH-IN ENVELOPE

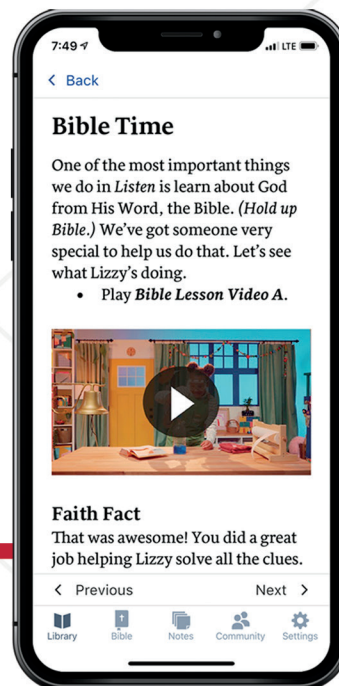
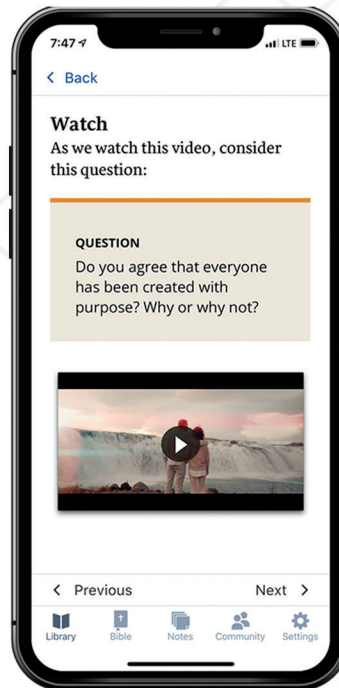
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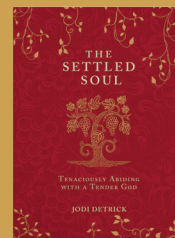




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How can we reconcile that restless striving with God's call to develop a peaceful, growing intimacy with Jesus? Is that even possible in today's culture? In the devotional study, *The Settled Soul*, Jodi Detrick invites you to take a deep dive into John 15:1-17 and explore what it means to tenaciously abide with Jesus. Learn more at MyHealthyChurch.com/TheSettledSoul.



National AG Women's Day

is

Sunday, February 28, 2021,

for Assemblies of God churches across the United States
and worldwide to celebrate the women of their congregations.



19M 10/20