



As in  
Heaven

AG Women 2026

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# Welcome to Ministering to Women 2026



Decades ago, this publication was born from a simple yet bold desire: to equip leaders, to help make disciples, and to mobilize women for the cause of Christ. We enthusiastically continue that mission today!

Inside these pages, you'll find inspiring stories and honest reflection from women walking out their journey with Jesus. You'll also receive updates about "Leading Together" leadership training launched last year, and Light the Way reaching new milestones. Throughout every page, you'll also discover our core values—leadership, resources, community, and generosity—at the center of everything we share.

I am so excited to introduce *As in Heaven*, our vision and themed resource for 2026. We will explore what it means to live out the realities of heaven in the midst of everyday life. I believe it will be a year that will challenge us to pray big, learn to walk in the power of the Holy Spirit, and understand our God-given authority as daughters of the Most High God.

I look forward to sharing my latest study, *As in Heaven: Unlocking the Power of the Lord's Prayer*. This six-week study is thoughtfully designed with beautiful visuals and practical study tools. We're asking what it means to pray, "on earth as it is in heaven," and actually live like that's possible. Whether it's for your private devotional time or studying together with a group, I pray it will be a place to pause and connect with the Lord as the deeper story of your life is being written.

I hope you are encouraged, challenged, and reminded that you are not alone. We're not aiming for perfection here—just honesty, grace, and a shared longing to live in tune with God's kingdom.

I'm honored to walk this road alongside you.



*Nonda Houston*  
AG Women National Director

*love + blessings,  
Nonda*



AG Women exists to encourage every woman to live a life of devotion to Jesus, to discover her purpose, develop her God-given potential and dare to become all that God has created her to be.



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#AsInHeaven26  
#AGWomen



# BORN TO GLORIFY GOD

By Michele Struss



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Watercolorist Michele E. Struss was born with a form of dwarfism that caused many limitations, yet her life and work have proven that there are no limits with God. Her story and paintings motivate others to look beyond what the eye can see, to what is unseen and limitless.

I was unexpectedly born different. My mother's doctor suspected that I had a form of dwarfism, which months later was confirmed. Knowing something was wrong that evening, my aunt and uncle held a prayer meeting to intercede for my healing. Afterward, no one sensed that I was going to be healed, but everyone walked away saying, "Michele was born to glorify God." Just writing that brings tears to my eyes. That prophetic word was woven right into my DNA from the beginning as glorifying God is my passion and purpose.

Though I stand only 3'10", my greatest challenge is the orthopedic complications that come with my form of dwarfism. As a result, I have been in the operating room nearly thirty times. Tucked in the middle of the Lord's Prayer is, "Give us this day our daily bread" (Matthew 6:11, NKJV). Part of my daily bread has been grace to walk this journey. As my mom would say, "God's grace is for today" just like the manna was.

As a child, I walked very poorly, and at age fourteen, became fully dependent on crutches. I longed to walk crutch-free,

but neurological and muscle damage led my doctor to say I'd always need them. Nonetheless, I said, "If ever I don't need my crutches, I'm going to burn them!"

While most of my surgeries were during my childhood, facing them is harder as an adult. I attended Messiah College, three and a half hours from home. The year after I graduated, I had another hip surgery and was put in another spika cast (body cast from my chest to my toes) as with all my hip surgeries. Due to complications requiring a second surgery, I was flat on my back for five and a half months after living a very independent life away at school. It was a hard season, but the roots of my faith grew deep and have kept me standing through many storms since.

Unfortunately, one year later, I fell and shattered my hip, undoing all the work done in those two surgeries, and requiring a hip replacement. In time, I miraculously was able to wean off the crutches and walk with just a cane! In front of 120 friends and family members, I threw my crutches—that the doctor had

said I'd always need—into a large bonfire to the glory of God! My surgeon of twenty-eight years was there and publicly said, "There are many doctors but only one Healer. The Healer is the Lord above us. We have to acknowledge this."

Sadly, six years later, I fell again and fractured my pelvis on the side of my hip replacement and, very long story short, I have been fully dependent on crutches ever since. I don't know why God allowed me to burn my crutches only to need them again, but I don't have to. Job 1:21 (NIV) says, "The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away, may the name of the LORD be praised." Through it all, God has been so faithful to me.

In addition to the gift of faith, I've been blessed with an artistic gift. I came to a place, though, when my work was unfulfilling and without purpose, so I prayed for God to use my talent. His answer came through artist Ron DiCianni: "What makes you weep when you are on your knees before God? That is what you should address in your work."

Through Ron's question, God was calling me to paint people—the very subject matter I'd intentionally been avoiding! As a watercolorist, I knew how unforgiving the medium is—you can't cover up mistakes! My style is also photorealism, so painting faces with watercolor was borderline impossible to me. However, over and over I have learned the power and blessing of obedience to God. Besides, if I am going to pray, "Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6:10, NIV), then I must be willing to surrender my will.



So, I said yes to God's call and my first figure painting was inspired by someone dear to my heart who calls me his hero for the strength he sees in my life. What he doesn't see though, is the Source of that strength. So, I portrayed myself as a little girl who fell while walking with her crutches, and behind me is Jesus bending to pick me up. I entitled it, *My Hero*.

I was so excited and inspired as I began that first work, but after investing close to one hundred hours, I ruined it one night, overshadowing the little girl's face. I started over, only to ruin the second one too. Through all the struggles my prayer remained the same, "Lord, I cannot do this on my own. I need You to be the Artist and simply use me as Your paintbrush." The third attempt flowed, and I finished it in the wee hours before my burning my crutches. There were several requests for prints of my painting, and my unexpected small business, His Paintbrush, was born!

I struggled to understand why God allowed me to fail twice when I was stepping out in obedience. Six years later, I understood when I did a painting of baby Jesus entitled *Immanuel . . . God with Us*. For the past sixteen years, it has hung in the Museum of Biblical Art in Dallas, Texas, at Christmastime, along with works by Michelangelo, Andy Warhol, and other masters. The first time I visited the museum, I stood in front of my painting with tears in my eyes, in awe of the God who paints through me. I believe I had to fail in my own strength with those first two tries at *My Hero* to fully understand the Source of my gift before the Lord took my work to the museum. Now, He alone gets the glory! "For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen" (Matthew 6:13, NKJV).

God has continued to use my gift, and one of the ways closest to my heart has been through my series of paintings of children from around the world. All the profit from those print and notecard sales go to serve children in their respective countries through Assemblies of God World Missions. God's ways are not my ways—they are higher!



**Michele Struss**  
*Bethany Church, Wyckoff, New Jersey*

# SINGLE MOMS RETREAT IMPACTS GENERATIONS TO COME

From a car tune-up to a foot massage, the Single Moms Retreat, hosted by the Assemblies of God Minnesota Network Women's Ministry Director Angie Goetz, offers something for everyone.

"It's a beautiful and unique retreat for single moms," Angie shares. "We do about ten to fifteen different workshops ranging anywhere from how to pray for your children to what godly dating looks like to meal prep to résumé writing."

Beyond practical knowledge and experiences, the retreat offers services by volunteers and professionals alike.

"We have a spa area where we do nails and foot rubs. Professional massage therapists donate their time as well as hairstylists who come in and do haircuts," Angie says. "We also have a craft room and a free clothing boutique. This year, we gave away over twelve thousand articles of clothing."



**Angie Goetz**  
*Minnesota District Women's Director*

Everything is donated, so women who attend aren't charged for goods or services. Amid the lineup are locally owned boutiques as well as nice clothing items generously donated by a large retailer.

Over one hundred volunteers provided maintenance for the ladies' vehicles at the 2025 retreat—servicing brakes, doing safety checks, and detailing cars.

Though greatly needed and much appreciated, the blessings of the Single Moms Retreat go far beyond meeting physical and tangible needs as grace and freedom abound.

“Years ago, we baptized ninety-three women in the lake on a beautiful evening in June,” Angie recalls. “Now, we have a pool and baptize women there.”

The actual number of salvations and prayer needs are not recorded, but stories continue to flood in of women blessed by the retreat.

Angie remembered praying with a single mom who had been trafficked as a child:

“One woman has come for many, many years, and last year I prayed with her as she told me she had grown up with a mom who trafficked her until she was sixteen. Not knowing anything about church, she moved away from home with her baby who had been born while she was trafficked. The woman ended up at Teen Challenge. She told me that she had met a Christian man and was now engaged. She wanted to know how to not bring the baggage of her past into her marriage and asked me to pray with her about that.”

Standing at the altar with the young woman, Angie was amazed at the miracle she was witnessing.

“That baby was standing there with his mama as she wanted to pray to lead a godly life,” Angie said. “We hear stories like that all the time.”

Another woman who recently attended the retreat started crying during a paraffin wax and hand massage because she hadn't received that kind of love in such a long time.

“That breaks your heart because everyone needs a touch and a hug and to feel love,” Angie said.

Angie is quick to acknowledge that the retreat she now enjoys hosting was started years ago by her mentor, Carol Lund.

Carol served as the Minnesota Network Women's Ministry director for twenty-five years and started the retreat with Lois Breit, a single mom who served as an Assemblies of God U.S. missionary to single moms.

Angie attributes the retreat's growth year to year to the vision cast and the openness of hearts to receive that vision.

“I think people get onboard with it by just casting the vision for what the Single Moms Retreat is all about and that it is the kindness of God toward these women who deserve dignity and honor just like anybody else,” Angie says.

“And also, there is a vision for the impact this can have on generations to come. Moms are raising little ones in their home, so we aren't just impacting a mom, but a family and generations to come.”

Many retreat volunteers were raised by single moms and know firsthand the struggles their mothers went through and the loneliness they encountered.

“It hits everybody differently,” Angie said. “We have moms who come from several states. One came all the way from New York. They just come from all over.”

It's Angie's hope that other churches and districts/networks across the country are inspired to initiate a ministry for single moms.

“Our churches in Minnesota have jumped on board and support this ministry that happens annually,” Angie said. “A lot of churches have taken it home to their churches and started their own ministry to single moms which is fun to see.”



LEADING TOGETHER

# LEADING TOGETHER

## *Leading To-Get-Her*

One day the dream becomes a reality, and last year it happened for AG Women! The first level of Leading Together was launched, and the impact is already being felt.

We know that when women are strengthened in faith, then families, churches, and communities are transformed. We carry a unique influence that is awakened as we create spaces for community and connection, healing and wholeness, purpose and empowerment.

Leading Together became a reality because of the hard work, dedication, and over twenty years of ministry experience of Zoharis Reyes. Zoharis joined the AG Women team in June 2024. As leadership specialist, she has helped create a platform dedicated to serving women's ministry leaders in the local church.

Our desire is to design leadership tools that help answer questions like:

- How can I help my team to get along and work together?
- How do I change the toxic culture that exists?
- How do I introduce change?
- How do I balance the demands of ministry and everyday life?
- How do we become multigenerational?
- How do I disciple our women?

Leading Together defines our why—To-get-her to Jesus!

Leading Together defines our how—by creating learning communities, cohorts, and networking with fellow women's ministry leaders.

Leading Together is driven by our conviction to help

*Zoharis shares, "It is my heart to serve women and empower them to become strong, Spirit-led leaders. Jesus himself modeled and mandated ministry to women. He saw them, valued them, and empowered them. I believe every woman has a place in God's kingdom to lead, speak truth, and walk in purpose and be a voice of influence in their homes, churches, and communities. This is more than a calling for us; it's a mission to help women understand who they are in Christ and to lead with boldness and grace. When a woman truly knows her identity in Christ, she becomes unstoppable."*

every woman grow spiritually, develop skills, increase her capacity, and become a more effective ministry leader.

Across our nation, women are gathering for a purpose:

- Discipleship—the goal of women's ministry is for every woman to grow spiritually, becoming a mature believer, and flourishing in her God-given purpose.
- Evangelism—to fulfill the Great Commission by creating space for women to know Jesus as Savior and Lord and creating on-ramps to integrate into the local church. To-Get-Her!
- Missions—creating awareness, opportunities, and fostering generosity individually and corporately.

Don't do it alone! AG Women's leadership training is for every women's ministry leader in every church who desires

to create a healthy culture, develop a dynamic team, equip and disciple women, evangelize her community and cultivate generosity for missions.

We hope these resources will encourage every current leader and call out to future leaders who have a heart for ministry to women. Just a few practical tools added to your tool belt can make a dramatic difference. You are the girl for the job!

Leading Together is a new leadership training initiative designed specifically for women leading women in the local church. Ministry to women is a vital part of the body of Christ, as we build a strong community, nurture spiritual growth, and impact generations.

Leading Together is here to build upon your strengths, equipping you with practical tools and strategies to help you thrive in your role. More than leadership principles, it's about fostering a community of encouragement, growth, and collaboration among women leaders.

Our mission is to come alongside you as you lead, offering support and resources to enhance your ministry's effectiveness. Whether you are navigating team dynamics, casting vision, or mentoring others, this training will help you lead with confidence and clarity, all while staying grounded in your calling.

Together we can strengthen the ministries that transform lives and bring glory to God. We would be honored to have you join us for this journey of growth and empowerment.

Leading Together and  
Leading To-Get-Her,

*Nonda Houston*  
AG Women National Director

*Zoharis Reyes*  
AG Women Leadership Specialist

## LEADING TOGETHER HAS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

### LEVEL 1

15-minute teaching videos with worksheets and assessments hosted on the AGWomen website. Free English and Spanish tracks are also available along with a certificate upon completion of the course

*(Released in 2025)*

### LEVEL 2

Monthly Zoom meetings which include teaching sessions with Q&A from leadership experts, additional resources, book recommendations, and networking with other Women's Ministry leaders.

*A monthly subscription will be offered in 2026.*

### LEVEL 3

A five-month cohort led by Nonda Houston. Each month will include a leadership book, Zoom meeting, book review, leadership teaching, best practices/ideas, prayer, and collaboration with Women's Ministry leaders.

*(one-time fee, spaces limited, TBA)*

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# As in Heaven

By Nonda Houston

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What would it mean for you to discover that you are the bridge connecting heaven's promises to our present reality? How would that help you and others step into God's purpose with boldness, clarity, and trust?

Our vision and theme for this year is *As in Heaven*. It is rooted in the powerful invitation Jesus gave us in the Lord's Prayer:

*"Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven."*

Matthew 6:10, NKJV

These words are more than a suggestion—they are a command to live in alignment with God's heart, bringing His presence, peace, and power into every part of our lives.

Our desire is to encourage and equip women to pray with boldness—in faith and in step with the Holy Spirit's leading. The Lord's Prayer is not just a model for how to pray but also reveals the heart of what matters most to God—worship, surrender, provision, forgiveness, guidance, and deliverance.

Each part of the Lord's Prayer draws us into deeper relationship with Him and invites us to live with kingdom purpose.

How different would our world look if we understood our authority to stand in the gap in intercession, rebuke the enemy, and trust in the promises of God? Our prayer this year is for our lives to be living examples and the conduit of God's love and redemption breaking into earth's brokenness—"on earth as it is in heaven."

For ideas to host your own As in Heaven gathering or celebrate National Women's Ministries Day (Sunday, February 22, 2026), go to [women.ag.org/Resources/theme](https://women.ag.org/Resources/theme) for free theme downloads, social media bundle, and sermon outline.

"Your  
kingdom  
come.  
Your will be done  
on  
earth as it is  
in heaven."

Matthew 6:10, NKJV

# MERCHANDISE & APPAREL

## AS IN HEAVEN CREWNECK (S-3XL)

Soft, durable, and faith-forward. This 100% ring-spun cotton crewneck features 1 Thessalonians on the front chest with a bow, Pray without ceasing across the back with a bow, and our signature W logo on the left sleeve. The triple-location, one-color imprint on this relaxed ivory crewneck looks great and makes a bold

\$54.99	090197	S	090200	XL
	090198	M	090201	2XL
	090199	L	090202	3XL

## AS IN HEAVEN T-SHIRT (S-3XL)

Made from heavyweight, ring-spun cotton, this T-shirt provides a soft, durable fit that feels great all day long. It features a minimalist front imprint, 1 Thessalonians with a bow, and a bold back design: Pray without ceasing.

\$17.99	090209	S	090212	XL
	090210	M	090213	2XL
	090211	L	090214	3XL



### AS IN HEAVEN PRAYER NOTEPAD

Capture your thoughts, prayers, and reminders with this beautifully designed 5" x 7" full-color Bible notepad. Featuring a vibrant, full-color imprint of Bible-themed artwork, it's perfect for church groups, personal Bible study, and everyday reflection.

178440 \$3.99

### AS IN HEAVEN PENS

Brighten up your notes and messages with this eye-catching trio of Jotter pens! Each pack includes three sleek pens in lilac purple, powder blue, and gray with a vibrant, full-color imprint. They come with a fully customizable insert for a polished presentation.

167238 \$8.99

### AS IN HEAVEN CANDLE

Set the mood with this clean-burning aromatherapy candle, handmade with coconut and soy wax. It comes in an elegant glass jar with a natural wood lid. 12 oz.

178436 \$14.99

### AS IN HEAVEN MUG

This beautifully crafted terrino mug in a natural hue features a simple yet powerful reminder: Pray without ceasing. 15 oz.

178432 \$14.99



### AS IN HEAVEN KEYCHAIN

Keep your keys close and your faith closer. This lightweight, durable keychain, in a calming sky blue, features a one-color, centered imprint of Pray without ceasing.

178434 \$7.99



### AS IN HEAVEN TOTE

A perfect blend of form and function, made with durable imitation jute. Its cream and tan tones offer a neutral, natural look, and the full-color "As in Heaven" imprint with a bow adds a meaningful, uplifting touch.

178438 \$14.99



### AS IN HEAVEN BRACELET

This gold bracelet with a bow matches our theme for the year. It's the perfect small, thoughtful gift for your friends and ministry sisters.

178442 \$4.99



### AS IN HEAVEN WATER BOTTLE

Stay refreshed and inspired with this double-wall insulated bottle in a soft taro hue. Durable, stylish, and perfect for everyday encouragement. 32 oz.

178430 \$26.99

# LIGHT

THE WAY

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Light the Way (LTW) is women helping women by reaching, restoring, and responding with compassion.

John 6:1–14 recounts the story of Jesus feeding the five thousand. After Jesus questioned His disciples about how they would feed the masses, Andrew volunteered a boy's simple lunch of five barley loaves and two fish.

Behind this famous story is another of a mother who simply did what mothers do; she prepared the equivalent of a couple of fish sandwiches for her son. Without fanfare in her modest kitchen, she sent her son off with what she had, not knowing that Jesus would take her seemingly insignificant little and turn it into much. Her efforts were unseen and unrecognized by the crowd, but essential in Jesus' hands for the miracle.

At the cornerstone of ministry to women is generosity, and as Assemblies of God women, it's in our DNA to find and meet the needs of those around us. From small Bible study circles to stadiums filled with thousands, we gather together to learn what is lacking and mobilize our efforts to bring a solution.

When you give to LTW, you become part of something bigger than yourself—something lasting, something eternal. Your generosity helps to send the gospel across the street and around the world, lighting up dark places with the love of Jesus. Every dollar you give becomes a seed of hope planted in the lives of women who need it most.

By Nonda Houston

AG Women  
is ministry  
to women.

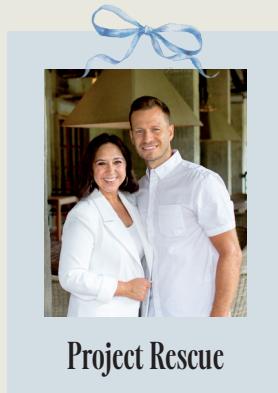
LTW is women  
helping women.

# LIGHT THE WAY'S GIVING TOTAL SINCE 1951: \$431,918,455.51

Light the Way (LTW) is the compassion arm of our ministry's mission endeavors. Our 2024 year-end total exceeded one million dollars for the first time in decades.

Look at what God did! Thank you for your partnership with LTW this year. May it be here on earth as it is in heaven because of your prayers, giving, and love.

## Light the Way Partners



Project Rescue began in 1997 as a response to the overwhelming need in the red-light districts of Southern Asia. Since then, it's grown into a global network that ministers to those being sexually exploited around the world. We believe that all men, women, and children are image-bearers of Christ. They all deserve to live their lives freely as fully empowered daughters and sons of God. Our varied initiatives serve the purpose of rescuing and restoring the lives of those affected by exploitation.

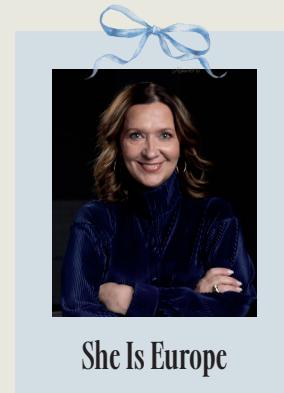
**Jennifer & Jonathan Barratt**  
[www.projectrescue.com](http://www.projectrescue.com)



SaveOne shares the hope of Jesus to those suffering from the choice of abortion. We believe the local church is the answer. With over four hundred chapters around the world, our mission continues to grow. The need is great. You are not alone. There is hope—SaveOne can help.

**Sheila & Jack Harper**  
[www.saveone.org](http://www.saveone.org)

SAVEONE



She Is Europe is a combined project of forty-four of our Assemblies of God World Missions women who are serving to reach women and girls across Europe.

The giftings they display through each of their vibrant ministries are blooming across the region. Together their resilience is breaking through hard soil so that the message of the gospel will flourish. We are thrilled with how God is creatively using us to reach the local European, the immigrant, the expat, and the refugee. We invite you to join us and discover who she really is.

**Melinda Henderson**  
[inspireglobalsisterhood.com](http://inspireglobalsisterhood.com)





## *Here are some ways you can partner with LTW!*

### What can you do?

- Ask God what He would have you do. Commit to monthly giving or give a one-time financial gift.
- Adopt a LTW missionary project or ministry project as your own.
- Look for creative and sacrificial ways to meet your faith promise.
- Pray for lives that LTW will reach, rescue, and restore.

### What can your women's group do?

- Set a group goal for the year. Teach on the importance of missions and generosity, then plan for giving opportunities.
- Adopt a LTW missionary project or ministry project as your own.
- Add \$5 to the ticket price of your event. Instant fundraiser!
- Pray as a group for lives that LTW will reach, rescue, and restore.

### What can your church do?

- Include LTW in your missions convention, missions month, or Sunday emphasis.
- Give a one-time financial gift.
- If your church uses the Kingdom Builders model, adopt LTW as one of your ongoing monthly/yearly partners.
- Pray as a church for lives that LTW will reach, rescue, and restore.

For promotional materials  
(information card, faith promise cards, envelopes)

Email: [wms@ag.org](mailto:wms@ag.org)

Phone: 417-862-2781 ext. 4060

Need a speaker to share at your service? We would love to come and share with your church or group. Contact AG Women at [women.ag.org](http://women.ag.org).

Just like the mother who packed a small lunch for her son, never imagining Jesus would use it as the means to a miracle, you may be a miracle in the hands of God to broken, hurting women around the world. When we give what we have, no matter the size, God will multiply it to bless others.

God is sending us all—some to our neighborhoods and some to the nations. From the marketplace to the market down the street, we are on mission with God, every day and everywhere.

What a dynamic duo when women and missions unite! Your role matters as you link up with the legacy of powerful women who have shaped God's story in the life of people around the globe. Together, we're carrying the torch, igniting faith, and making an eternal impact.

To learn more about what you can do individually or as a group, visit [women.ag.org](http://women.ag.org)

### Give Now

Online: [women.ag.org/light-the-way](http://women.ag.org/light-the-way)

Mail: 1445 N. Boonville Ave.,

Springfield, MO 65802



# As in Heaven

*Unlocking the Power of the Lord's Prayer*

By Nonda Houston

The concept of prayer can be intimidating. The thought of speaking directly to God leaves many feeling worried about saying the “right” thing or being spiritual enough to converse with the Creator of the universe. If you’ve ever felt that way, you are not alone.

Jesus’ disciples had the opportunity to ask Him many questions about prayer. But of all the things they could have asked Jesus, they only chose one: “Lord, teach us to pray” (Luke 11:1). In response, Jesus gave them a prayer—not just words to recite, but a powerful model for deep, transformative communion with God.

This six-week study includes a week-by-week breakdown of the Lord’s Prayer.

## Week 1

Pray Like This.

## Week 2

Our Father in Heaven,  
Hallowed Be Your Name.

## Week 3

Your Kingdom Come. Your Will Be Done  
on Earth as It Is in Heaven.

## Week 4

Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread.

## Week 5

And Forgive Us Our Debts,  
as We Forgive Our Debtors.

## Week 6

And Do Not Lead Us Into Temptation,  
but Deliver Us from the Evil One.

Together, we’ll explore what it means to live out the realities of heaven in the middle of our everyday, imperfect lives. Whether you’ve prayed the Lord’s Prayer a hundred of times or are exploring it for the first time, this study will reveal the power of prayer and the richness of Jesus’ words as we apply them to our daily lives.

### *Also included*

- \* *Individual reflection questions*
- \* *Group discussion questions*
- \* *Weekly Bible memorization verse*
- \* *Free 15-minute introduction videos are available on our website.*

6-WEEK WOMEN'S STUDY

# As in Heaven

Unlocking the Power of the Lord's Prayer

Nonda Houston

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of the Lord's Prayer**

*By Nonda Houston*

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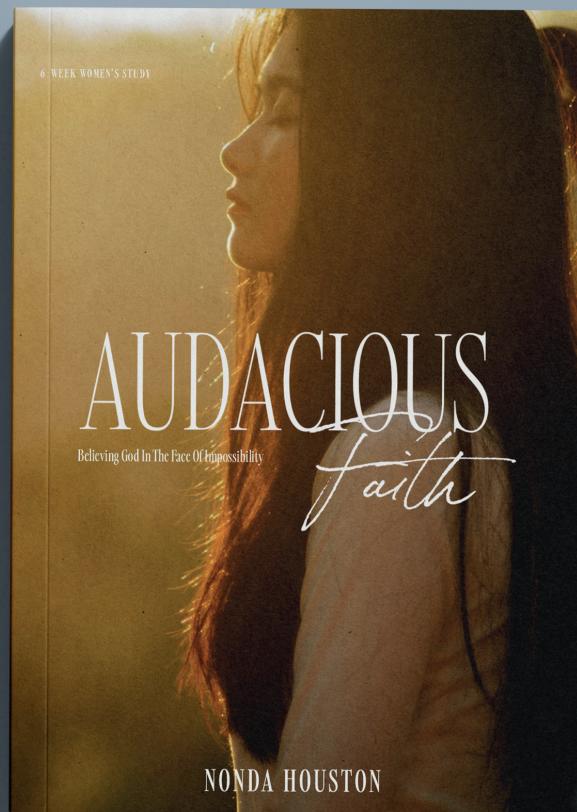
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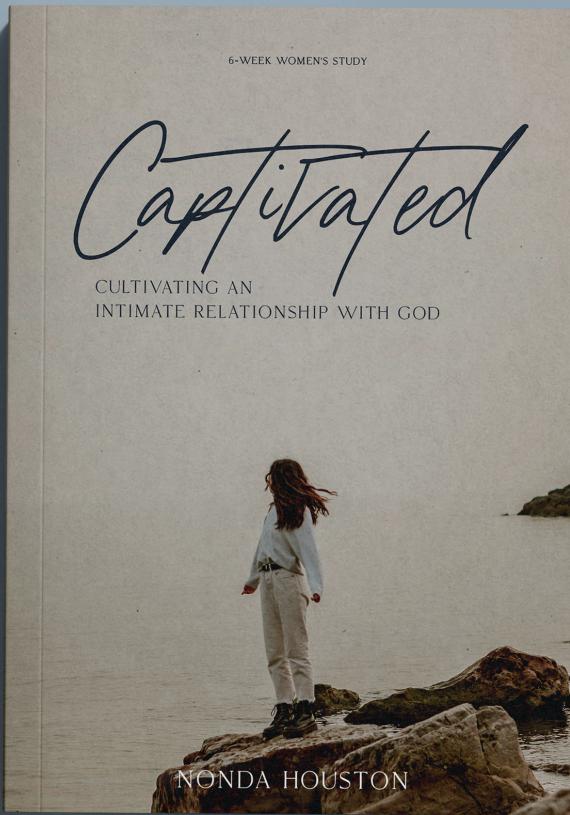
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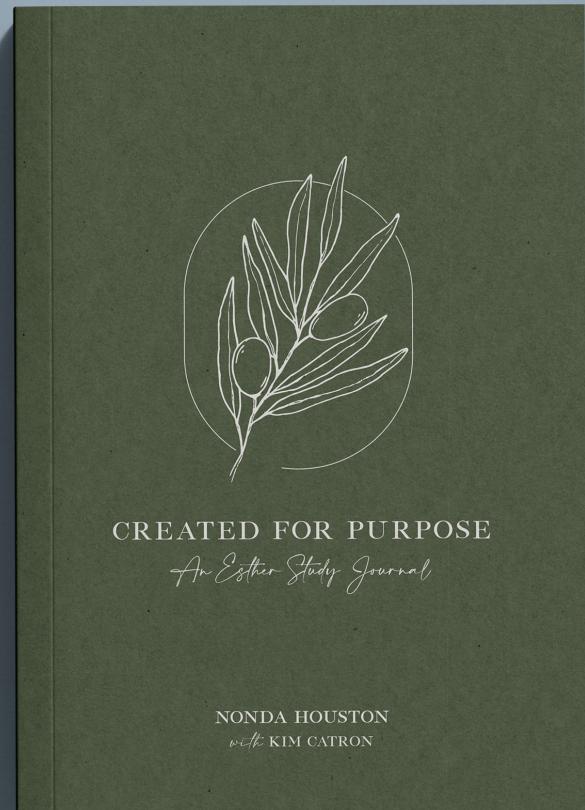


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By Nonda Houston with Kim Catron

*Created for Purpose* is a four-week study on the Book of Esther. While unpacking the life of Esther, readers will learn more about navigating adversity and disappointment while leaning into all that God has for them. Paperback, 7" x 9.5", 144 pages.

English      024260      \$9.99



# MINISTRY Wives

By Susan Ross

In 1996, my dad drew his last breath here on earth and received a welcome from Jesus and all who'd gone before him. Right now, heaven is filled with songs of praise to our Lord, and the atmosphere is thick with honor. Glorious! What can we do as ministry wives to create an atmosphere of honor right here on earth as in heaven?

Micah 6:8 outlines three principles that God asks of His people—to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with Him.

## Do Justice

It's always the right time to do the right thing. Pursuing biblical justice means we follow God's way and standard as we look to Scripture to define what is right. Jesus is our model for righteousness, and we must measure our decisions by Him and not by culture.

## Love Kindness

Practice kindness toward others. We are often kind during a mission trip or community outreach, but it can be challenging to extend kindness to those we know and sometimes find annoying. This requires self-sacrifice—which isn't popular—and intentional acts of kindness.

Practice is our action step. Kindness may not come easily, but we must practice it until it does.

## Walk Humbly with Him

We live in a culture where self-promotion on social media makes people famous. But our purpose on earth as believers is to make the name of Jesus famous. Walking humbly, among many other things, involves the lost art of listening. Good conversation is like tennis—the ball bounces back and forth. Listening allows someone else's story to weave into yours and demonstrates that you value them.

We have the blessed hope of heaven one day when our purpose here on earth is complete.



**Susan Ross**

*Wife of Rev. Rick Ross*

*General Treasurer of the Assemblies of God*



# DISCIPLESHIP

By Holly Davis, *Assemblies of God National Director of Student Discipleship*

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## 1. Why is it crucial to begin discipleship at an early age, and how does that impact a young person's lifelong walk with Christ?

If we don't disciple kids early, culture will. Research shows that the spiritual foundation of the next generation is largely shaped by the time they turn thirteen. By then, it's not ground-up building—it's remodeling or complete renovation.

Early discipleship isn't just about stuffing Bible facts in kids' heads. It's about walking with them, helping them know Jesus personally, and building spiritual habits that hold up through life's highs and lows. When kids learn to follow Jesus early, they carry that foundation into college, career, and family. It shapes how they know Jesus, live like Jesus, and follow Jesus.

## 2. What are the unique challenges and opportunities in discipling the next generation in this digital, post-Christian culture?

We're discipling in a world that's loud, fast, and constantly online. Students are bombarded with opinions that contradict God's truth, and seeking God and His plans is no longer assumed. But the

opportunity is huge: This generation is starving for something real.

They see through fake quickly. They want authenticity, connection, and spiritual depth. We have the chance to meet them where they are—digitally, relationally, and spiritually—and point them toward Jesus in everyday life. They don't want polished; they want presence.

### 3. What roles do spiritual mothers and mentors play in the development of young women in the faith? How can churches foster those connections more intentionally?

Spiritual mothers are game changers. In a world full of identity confusion, they speak stability and clarity. They show young women what it looks like to follow Jesus through the challenges they face.

Churches can create intentional space for these relationships—through mentorship groups, age-diverse small groups, or just empowering women to walk alongside the next generation. Titus 2 wasn't just a nice chapter. It's a blueprint. And when it's followed, the entire church gets stronger.

### 4. What excites you most about the current generation of youth in the Assemblies of God? What signs of growth or hunger are you seeing?

They're bold. They're hungry. And they are not playing church. They are the church.

I'm seeing students chase God's presence, ask deep questions, and step into ministry earlier than ever. Fine Arts, camps, or campus missions—you name it, they're going after it. When they encounter the Holy Spirit,

they move. No one's pushing them into it—they're running full speed toward it. And that gives me hope.

Our job? Keep fanning the flame—not try to control it.

### 5. What encouragement would you give to youth and women's ministries leaders discipling the next generation, especially young women?

You're planting seeds that will grow long after you stop seeing them every week. Don't give up.

Discipleship isn't always flashy. It's faithfulness. It's late-night texts, hard conversations, and showing up when it's inconvenient.

Keep reminding the next generation who they are in God before the world tries to tell them who they're not. And don't try to do it solo. Link arms with parents, pastors, and other leaders. We're in this together.

And the next generation? They're worth everything we've got.



**Holly Davis**  
*Assemblies of God  
National Director of  
Student Discipleship*



*Introducing*  
**URBAN**  
girl

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# City life is bold, beautiful, and complicated—and no one

understands that better than the women living it. *Urban Girl* is a new seven-week study written by urban women, for urban women, tackling the real-life issues that Christian women face in today's fast-paced, pressure-filled environments.

From rush-hour stress to emotional exhaustion, *Urban Girl* explores themes that don't get enough attention in traditional studies. With chapters titled "Traffic," "Real," "Drama," "Fight," "Party," "Lonely", and "Broke," this study speaks directly to the challenges of surviving—and thriving—as a woman of faith in an urban setting.

Each chapter starts with a short intro video featuring women just like you—strong, wise, and rooted in the urban experience. Each chapter reflects the beauty and challenges of everyday life in the city and is always grounded in God's Word. You can download the whole study at once or one chapter at a time.

This isn't about having all the answers—it's about showing up as you are and letting God meet you there. You'll hear authentic voices, share honest stories, and find space to grow in faith alongside other women who get it.

This is your invitation to be real, go deep, and connect with other women walking the same streets—and the same journey. We're excited to walk this journey with you.

[women.ag.org/resources/urbangirl](https://women.ag.org/resources/urbangirl)

# CONNECTION

In every thriving community, strong relationships are the foundation. For women in the Assemblies of God, one of the most valuable connections you can cultivate is with your district AG Women director. These dedicated women are more than just organizers—they are mentors, visionaries, and catalysts for spiritual growth and ministry opportunities.

By engaging with your local AG Women director, you gain access to resources tailored to your community, support for personal and group development, and opportunities to participate in initiatives that uplift women and families.

Whether it's planning a regional conference, launching a new Bible study, or supporting missions through fundraising, your director provides guidance and encouragement every step of the way.

When women link arms across churches and regions, the result is a powerful, Spirit-led network that impacts generations. Don't miss the opportunity to partner with your local director—your voice, gifts, and presence are all purposeful in what God is doing through AG Women.

# The Importance of Connecting with Your Director

Sandra Ogunremi, *South Dakota District Women's Director*



Connecting with Women's district directors across our nation has been truly inspirational for me! I have witnessed the presence and power of the Holy Spirit at all the events I have participated in and it has been enriching. Watching directors lead with a spirit of excellence yet serving with humility, love, and kindness has blessed my soul.

Ladies, connecting with your Women's district director will result in similar outcomes! The best way to know the heart and direction of the district is through connecting with the district director at events, by social media, and by other means. Having a powerful experience together in the presence of the Lord through district events is life-changing.

By connecting with our local leaders and each other, we can see what God is doing across our district, the nation, and beyond! Developing relationships will show us how to care and pray for each other and cheer each other on.

As we connect, Hebrews 10:24 becomes more fulfilled: "Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works."

It is beautiful when we connect and stay connected!

*As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend.*

Proverbs 27:17

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# The Importance of Connection

Donna Bartolome, *Hawaii Distric Women's Director*



Connecting with your local Women's Ministries leaders is essential for fostering growth and collaboration within your community. One key benefit of this connection is gaining insights from our Assemblies of God national office, where AG Women provides access to the latest training materials. This ensures that leaders are equipped with the resources they need to thrive.

The district director also offers tools specifically designed for personal and ministry growth, guiding leaders on their unique journeys. In Hawaii, even though islands separate us, we have witnessed the transformative power of collaboration, especially among churches that lack a Women's Ministry. By uniting our efforts, we create a supportive network that encourages and uplifts one another.

Our annual gatherings for Women's Ministries leaders embody this spirit, bringing leaders together to exchange insights, experiences, and creative ideas. These gatherings empower individual ministries and cultivate a vibrant community that uplifts all women in our district.

By connecting with the Women's Ministries director for their district/network, leaders enhance their ministries while contributing to an environment that fosters growth, support, and unity across our churches. This connection is vital for ensuring that every woman can find her place within the community.

# The Power of Walking Together in Ministry

Enedine Garza, *Northwest Hispanic District Women's Director*



As a district Women's Ministries director, I have been truly blessed to have a strong and meaningful connection with our national Women's Ministries director. Her example, wisdom, and constant support have deeply inspired me and shaped the way I serve. Through her guidance, I have learned the value of walking alongside other leaders with grace, strength, and purpose. Building relationships with local leaders means partnering with women who are passionate about advancing God's kingdom.

Through consistent communication and intentional collaboration, we gain insight into the needs of our ministry

and how we can be more effective in serving the women in our district. When we are connected, we are not isolated. We become part of a team that reflects the body of Christ—many members, but one mission. These relationships help ensure that we stay encouraged, accountable, and equipped to fulfill the call God has placed on our lives and ministries.

Together, we are stronger, wiser, and more effective in our service to the Lord and His people. When local leaders and district directors work in unity, we create a united movement of women who are empowered and equipped to serve God and impact their communities for His glory.

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## Lifeline of Director Connections

Jamie Barkwell, *New York District Women's Director*



It was 12:33 a.m. when I received a text on my phone.

After extending an invite to another district women's director—who I'd met very briefly—this was her beautiful response:

"Hi Jamie, I'm just getting home from a several hour drive. . . but I am available and can do whatever you need me to do. . . I'm here to serve you in whatever way I can. Blessings and love."

Tears filled my eyes and spilled over my cheeks. It was my first year serving as Women's Ministries director for New York, and I was a bit raw from months of opposition and discouragement. I didn't even know what I needed, but I knew the cry of my heart was for a move of the Spirit across the State of New York.

It was the beginning of provision for me personally in this new role, but also for the women of New York.

Her support poured love into my soul. After that, her ministry met our women right where they were, and the work of the Holy Spirit lit our hearts on fire.

This is the lifeline of connection together. It has taken place over and over: at lunch, through a text, at a conference, providing encouragement, creative ideas, and timely Spirit-filled connections.

When we lean into community and support each other, we are better together.

# CONNECT WITH YOUR DISTRICT DIRECTOR

## AG Kansas

Heidi Robidou  
[agkansas.com](http://agkansas.com)

## Alabama

Cyndi Draughon  
[amnag.org](http://amnag.org)

## Alaska

Charee Davis  
[akministrynetwork.org](http://akministrynetwork.org)

## Appalachian

Stephanie Jordan  
[appalachianwomen.wixsite.com/realwomen](http://appalachianwomen.wixsite.com/realwomen)

## Arizona

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[azagwomen.org](http://azagwomen.org)

## Central

M. Pat Mata  
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## Central Pacific

Jackie Ramos  
[centralpacificag.org](http://centralpacificag.org)

## Georgia

Kristi Steffens  
[courageoussisterhood.com](http://courageoussisterhood.com)

## Hawaii

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[kyag.org](http://kyag.org)

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[laaog.org](http://laaog.org)

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[mmn.ag](http://mmn.ag)

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## Ohio

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## Oklahoma

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## Oregon

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## Peninsular Florida

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## PennDel

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[pennidelwomen.org](http://pennidelwomen.org)

## Potomac

Katie Moran  
[potomacag.org/women](http://potomacag.org/women)

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## Southern Missouri

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## Southern Pacific

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## Texas Louisiana

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## West Texas

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## West Texas & Plains

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## Wisconsin-N. Michigan

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[wnmdag.org](http://wnmdag.org)

## Wyoming Ministry

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## Black Fellowship

Charlene Williams  
[nbfaq.org/](http://nbfaq.org/)

# LET'S CONNECT

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# GOD IS DOING AMAZING THINGS AT AG WOMEN!

We are coming out with new resources, Bible studies, and ministry lanes. Stay informed by visiting our website and connecting on social media!



*AG Women Website: [women.ag.org](http://women.ag.org)*



*AG Women FB: [facebook.com/AGWomen](https://facebook.com/AGWomen)*



*Ministry Wives FB Group: [AG Ministry Wives](#)*



*AG Women Instagram: [@AGWomens](#)  
Hashtags: [#AGWomen](#) [#AsInHeaven2026](#)*

# Network of WOMEN MINISTERS

By Cynthia Dobbs

“Who, me?” I asked, responding to my pastor’s invitation to speak at our church. I was surprised, and somehow not surprised at all.

A few nights earlier, my evening devotions turned into an all-night Spirit-led study of God’s Word, and what I wrote in my journal resembled a sermon more than a journal entry.

A week prior, my husband returned from a prayer retreat, saying he felt the Lord had revealed that my ministry would involve preaching. When he told me that, it was hard to believe. Until that point, my life had been immersed in the pursuit of science. I was on track to become a biochemist. I had no Assemblies of God ministerial credential and no desire to be a preacher.

Now here I was, with my pastor calling out the Father’s will for me—something God had gently revealed all along, both prophetically and practically.

My “Who, me?” was the concentrated version of all the other questions that fear had fueled.

“Did you mean to ask for my husband?” After all, he’s the credentialed minister.

“Wait, who put you up to this?”

“Did my husband tell you something?”

When I shared those questions with my pastor, he smiled and asked, “Cynthia, do you have a message? I feel like you do.”

The truth was that I had a message—ironically about how God keeps watch over His Word to perform it. I accepted the invitation and shared at church. As many people at church responded, it clicked. This wasn’t about me. It wasn’t about my capacity, charisma, or even competence. It was about bringing His will to earth as it is in heaven, and that working through fear was worth that outcome. My role was to be a conduit of His grace.

We often complicate calling unnecessarily. At its core, a fulfilled calling means walking hand in hand with the Father, doing what He would do, saying what He would say, and bringing His healing to the world He loves so much.

What is your next step toward “yes” to bring His will on earth as it is in heaven?

The Network of Women Ministers is a great place to find a sisterhood of yes-sayers. You don’t have to do it alone!

Visit [nwm.ag.org](http://nwm.ag.org) for practical resources for the journey.



**Cynthia Dobbs**  
*Leadership Development Specialist*  
*Network of Women Ministers*

# RECOMMENDED MINISTRIES

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## Abortion Recovery

SaveOne: Healing after Abortion  
Directed by Sheila Harper  
Visit [saveone.org](http://saveone.org).

## Abuse and/or Addiction Recovery

Adult and Teen Challenge U.S.A.  
Directed by Gary Blackard  
Visit [teenchallengeusa.org](http://teenchallengeusa.org)

Project Ignite Light  
Directed by Pebbles Thompson  
Visit [ignitelight.org](http://ignitelight.org)

## Human Trafficking Rescue

F.R.E.E. International  
Directed by Michael Bartel  
Visit [freeinternational.org](http://freeinternational.org).

Global Center for Women and Justice  
Directed by Sandra Morgan  
Visit [gcwj.org](http://gcwj.org).

Project Rescue  
Directed by Jennifer Grant Barratt  
Visit [projectrescue.com](http://projectrescue.com).

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

## Adoption/Foster Care

COMPACT Family Services  
Directed by Alan Bixler  
Visit [compactfamilyservices.org](http://compactfamilyservices.org)

## Marriage

Marriage Encounter  
Directed by David  
and Chris Morrison  
Visit [agme.org](http://agme.org).

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

## Pastoral Care/Counseling

Emerge Counseling Ministries  
Directed by Dr. Robert Crosby  
Visit [emerge.org](http://emerge.org).

## Sexual Identity

Linda Seiler  
Visit [lindaseiler.com](http://lindaseiler.com).

ReStory Ministries  
Visit [restoryministries.org](http://restoryministries.org).

Joe Dallas  
Visit [Joedallas.com](http://Joedallas.com).

## Special Needs

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

## Women and Girls

Ministry to Muslim Women  
Say Hello: Serving Muslim Women  
Directed by Lynda Hausfeld  
Visit [sayhelloinfo.com](http://sayhelloinfo.com).

Ministry to Widows  
Widows Link  
Directed by Marlene Craft  
Visit [widowslink.org](http://widowslink.org).

AG National Girls Ministries  
Directed by Kim Sharp  
Visit [ngm.ag.org](http://ngm.ag.org).

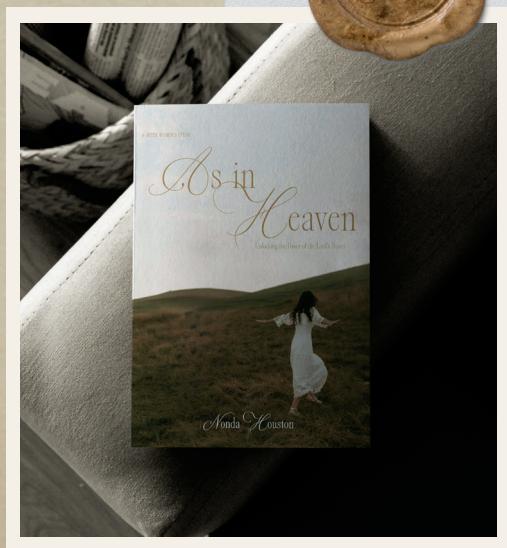
Network of Women Ministers  
Directed by Melissa Alfaro  
Visit [womenministers.ag.org](http://womenministers.ag.org).





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