



RESOURCES FOR WOMEN IN THE CHURCH

The ultimate goal for any ministry involving women should be to help a woman glorify God by developing a balanced Christian lifestyle though

- Ongoing spiritual enrichment through personal Bible study,
- Hands-on missions involvement, and
- The practice of verbally sharing her faith.

Each of the three circles in this graphic represents a unique focus of equipping women to grow in Christ and to develop such a lifestyle. LifeWay Christian Resources, **Woman's Missionary Union**, the North American Mission Board and the International Mission Board faithfully provide resources and involvement opportunities to assist women in the local church in becoming balanced, mature followers of Christ.

LifeWay Christian Resources

Over the last several years, many churches have sensed a great hunger among women for **understanding God's Word and for finding answers to life issues through His Word. Women want to know how to apply biblical principles that will help them be godly women in today's world. As churches have prayed and sought God's guidance about how to meet the diverse needs of women, they have begun to provide in-depth Bible studies to help women grow spiritually, use their gifts in service, and share their faith.**

LifeWay Christian Resources in Nashville, Tennessee, **created the Women's Ministry (WM) position to address the issues of women. LifeWay provides biblically based solutions to meet women's needs. WM at LifeWay offers leadership training and resources, discipleship and spiritual growth tools, and enrichment events to encourage women to get into the Word of God. Resources such as Bible studies by Beth Moore and Anne Graham Lotz, and the devotional magazine *Journey* are just some of the resources available.**

For many, "enrichment" is the hook that draws women into ministry so they can grow and serve. Ideally, this will help them develop their Christian lifestyle to include missions and evangelism. As a disciple, they will be compelled to serve God any way He asks them to, becoming the "new creation" God wants them to become in Him (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Contact: Chris Adams and/or Kay Cassibry.

Woman's Missionary Union

When a Christian woman discovers that she is the work of God and that God has a special task for her to do to **reach others for Christ's Kingdom (Ephesians 2:10 and Matthew 5:16)**, then **she needs an outlet to put that discovery into action. That's why Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) exists:** to challenge Christian believers to understand and be radically involved in the mission of God. WMU provides learning resources, hands-on experiences, and leadership training to help women grow spiritually into a lifestyle that includes using their knowledge and gifts to reach non-Christians both locally and globally.

Through involvement in Women on Mission in a local church, through the use of *Missions Mosaic* magazine as a source of information and inspiration, and through participation in the financial and prayer support of missionaries, Baptist women today can find personal fulfillment in reaching beyond themselves to a global vision.

Through Women on Mission, the woman in the local church is connected to a worldwide network of women committed to missions and has access to women leading these efforts in each of the Baptist state conventions and at the national WMU offices in Birmingham, Alabama. Contact: Gayla Parker and/or your MS WMU department: Kay Cassibry, Tammy Anderson, Paula Smith or Maria Teel.

North American Mission Board

We believe that God is calling women to share His heart with others. Evangelism begins when we pray for ourselves and for unbelievers. When we do this, God's power is available to flow through us and the Holy Spirit draws unbelievers to God through Christ. The result is that women find purpose and meaning in their lives by knowing God and sharing Him with others. When women communicate the truths they have learned, they tend to share and feel which is uniquely different from the way men tend to think and talk.

Our task is to help the women's leadership in the local church make their ministries evangelistic. Women's Evangelism at NAMB trains leaders, provides personal witnessing tools, and group learning resources for equipping women to share their faith. NAMB also provides training, consulting and other resources to help your church members to be On Mission for Jesus Christ through evangelism, church planting and missions in the United States and Canada. Contact: Kay Cassibry

International Mission Board

To love Jesus is to love the world and all the peoples He created and for whom He died (John 3:16). As Jesus began preaching the kingdom of God, a faithful band of women followed and supported the mission strategy (Luke 8:1-3; Acts 1:14). As the world comes to us in America, believers are also going to the unreached who have never heard of the amazing love of our **Savior. Women have a unique gift and calling to share Christ's love with women who have little or no access to the truth. We are truly blessed as American women and God's blessings carry great responsibility (Genesis 12:1-3; Psalm 67; Luke 12:48). Across the street and around the world, women need to hear the truth of the gospel in a way they can understand before they can believe (Romans 10:14).**

The International Mission Board (IMB) has numerous resources to help women see the **world and develop Christ's heart of compassion for those without a Shepherd. One resource that has been well received is for a woman's prayer tea. Women who see with Christ's eyes** will pray for laborers and the harvest (Matthew 9:35-38; Colossians 4:2; Ephesians 6:18) and they will disciple the next generation as Eunice and Lois did Timothy (2 Timothy 1:5). Our desire is for God called and equipped women to serve among the unreached. Women in our churches are valuable partners as they pray, give and go. **Our goal is to mobilize God's**

daughters to walk through unprecedented open doors in the twenty first century. Contact: Paula Hemphill or Kay Cassibry

Working together, LifeWay, **Woman's Missionary Union**, the North American Mission Board, the International Mission Board and Mississippi Baptist WMU Department want to help the local church equip women who will live lifestyles that demonstrate a strong biblical foundation for all they do, **a commitment to God's global mission, and a passion for sharing Christ** with others. All three circles intersect and the goal for all four **entities' resources** is mature Christian women finding and fulfilling their God given purpose.

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