

*Women Thriving
in a Large Church*

One Another Ministry Among Women

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*Our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus... gave Himself for us to
redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a
people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.*

Titus 2:13-14

*For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for
good works, which God prepared beforehand
so that we would walk in them.*

Ephesians 2:10

*Women are to adorn themselves by means of good works,
as is proper for women making a claim to godliness.*

1Timothy 2:9

Points to Ponder

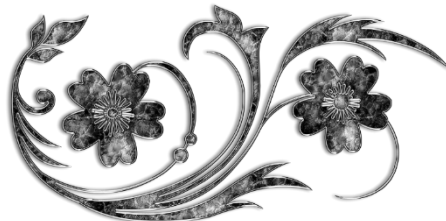
1. You can't do it all!

I am only one, but I am one.
I cannot do everything,
but I can do something.
And that which I can do,
by the grace of God, I will do.
~Dwight L. Moody

2. Know yourself.
3. Don't compare.
*2 Corinthians 10:12 They who are measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, **are not wise.***
4. Include your family in your "one anothers."
5. Reach out to women of different ages and life circumstances.
6. It all starts here at church!

Categories of Women in Our Church

- ♥ Seniors (62 yrs. plus)
- ♥ Shut-ins
- ♥ Widows
- ♥ Divorced
- ♥ Single moms
- ♥ Young married women with no children
- ♥ Moms with newborns and infants
- ♥ Women with young children
- ♥ Moms with teens
- ♥ Home school moms
- ♥ Working moms
- ♥ Women with a lot of children of all different ages
- ♥ Foster moms
- ♥ Moms with children who have disabilities
- ♥ College age
- ♥ Young single adults
- ♥ Older single women
- ♥ Physical limitations
- ♥ Caregivers
- ♥ Women working
- ♥ Women with children away from the Lord
- ♥ Women with unsaved husbands



Make Me a Blessing

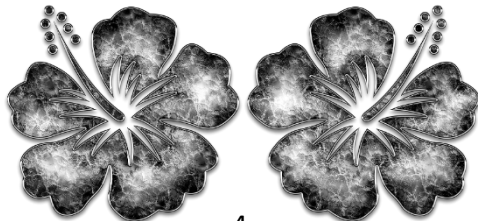
Out in the highways and byways of life,
Many are weary and sad;
Carry the sunshine where darkness is rife,
Making the sorrowing glad.

Refrain:

Make me a blessing, make me a blessing.
Out of my life may Jesus shine;
Make me a blessing, O Savior, I pray.
Make me a blessing to someone today.

Give as 'twas given to you in your need,
Love as the Master loved you;
Be to the helpless a helper indeed,
Unto your mission be true.

~Ira B. Wilson



A Biblical Perspective

One Another Ministry Among Women

1. **Prayer – Intercessory Prayer is One-another Ministry**

Romans 12:10-12 Be devoted to one another in brotherly love... devoted to prayer.

Ephesians 6:18 With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints...

2. **Charity—Providing Food, Drink, Clothing, etc.**

Matthew 25:34-40 Then the King will say to those on His right, “Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink... I was naked, and you clothed Me...” The King will answer and say to them, “Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me.”

Act 9:36-39 Now in Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (which translated in Greek is called Dorcas); this woman was abounding with deeds of kindness and charity which she continually did... and all the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing all the tunics and garments that Dorcas used to make while she was with them.

3. **Assisting Those in Distress**

1Timothy 5:9-10 A widow is to be put on the list only... if she has assisted those in distress, and if she has devoted herself to every good work.

Titus 3:14 *Our people must also learn to engage in good deeds to meet pressing needs...*

4. Little Things

Mark 9:41 *For whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because of your name as followers of Christ, truly I say to you, he will not lose his reward.*

5. Sharing

Hebrews 13:16 *And do not neglect doing good and sharing, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.*

1Timothy 6:17-18 *Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy. Instruct them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share...*

6. Hospitality

1Peter 4:9 *Be hospitable to one another without complaint.*

Romans 12:10-13 *Be devoted to one another in brotherly love... practicing hospitality.*

7. Visiting—“visit”: to go to see; be concerned about.

(This is visiting for the purpose of ministry to others, not just good fellowship or socializing.)

♥ Widows

James 1:27 *Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress...*

♥ **The Sick**

♥ **Prisoners/the Persecuted (for the cause of Christ)**

Matthew 25:34-40 Then the King will say to those on His right, "Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For... I was sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me..." "Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me."

Hebrews 13:3: Remember the prisoners as though in prison with them, and those who are ill-treated, since you yourselves also are in the body.

8. Ministry out of Little – The Widow of Zarephath

1Kings 17:9-16 "Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and stay there; behold, I have commanded a widow there to provide for you." So he arose and went to Zarephath, and when he came to the gate of the city, behold, a widow was there gathering sticks; and he called to her and said, "Please get me a little water in a jar, that I may drink." As she was going to get it, he called to her and said, "Please bring me a piece of bread in your hand." But she said, "As the LORD your God lives, I have no bread, only a handful of flour in the bowl and a little oil in the jar; and behold, I am gathering a few sticks that I may go in and prepare for me and my son, that we may eat it and die." Then Elijah said to her, "Do not fear; go, do as you have said, but make me a little bread cake from it first and bring it out to me, and afterward you may make one for yourself and for your son. For thus says the LORD God of Israel, 'The bowl of flour shall not be exhausted, nor shall the jar of oil be empty, until the day that the LORD sends rain on the face of the earth.'" So she went and did according to the word of Elijah, and she and he and her household ate for many days.

The bowl of flour was not exhausted nor did the jar of oil become empty, according to the word of the LORD which He spoke through Elijah.

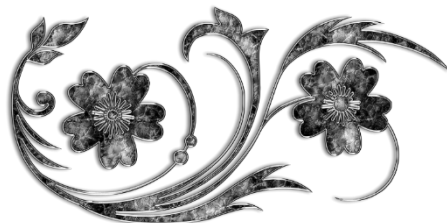
9. Ministry out of Abundance – The Shunamite Woman

2Kings 4:8-10 Now there came a day when Elisha passed over to Shunem, where there was a prominent woman, and she persuaded him to eat food. And so it was, as often as he passed by, he turned in there to eat food. She said to her husband, "Behold now, I perceive that this is a holy man of God passing by us continually. Please, let us make a little walled upper chamber and let us set a bed for him there, and a table and a chair and a lampstand; and it shall be, when he comes to us, that he can turn in there."

***Note**

Galatians 6:10 Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.

The context of all the above passages is believers ministering to believers in the body of Christ. Not that we should neglect to do good to the unsaved, by any means. *Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation (i.e. be saved) 1Peter 2:12. But Jesus said, "By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another" John 13:35.*



The Work of Her Hands
Consider the Woman Who Fears the Lord

*She looks for wool and flax
And works with her hands in delight.
She is like merchant ships;
She brings her food from afar.
She rises also while it is still night
And gives food to her household
And portions to her maidens.
She considers a field and buys it;
From her earnings she plants a vineyard.
She girds herself with strength
And makes her arms strong.
She senses that her gain is good;
Her lamp does not go out at night.
She stretches out her hands to the distaff,
And her hands grasp the spindle.
She extends her hand to the poor,
And she stretches out her hands to the needy.
She is not afraid of the snow for her household,
For all her household are clothed with scarlet.
She makes coverings for herself;
Her clothing is fine linen and purple.
Her husband is known in the gates,
When he sits among the elders of the land.
She makes linen garments and sells them,
And supplies belts to the tradesmen.*

~ Proverbs 31:13-24

(Remember: This is a picture of a whole lifetime not one day!)

The Joy of Giving

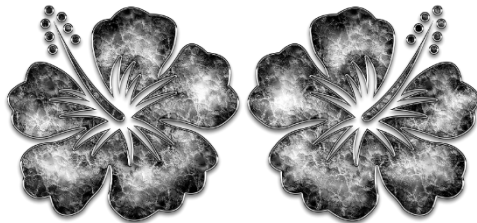
Proverbs 11:25 The generous soul will be made rich, and he who waters will also be watered himself.

Luke 6:38 Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.

Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Colossians 3:23-24 And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.

2 Corinthians 9:7-9 And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. As it is written: "He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever."



Just for Starters

Looking Out for the Interest of Others

Philippians 2:4

Prayer

- Ask someone how you can pray for them.
- Take advantage of opportunities to pray with other women at Wednesday night prayer meeting, Ladies' Missionary Prayer Group, or in small gatherings.
- Pray with someone you don't know very well or of a different age group.
- Take note of a young person, a senior, a single woman in our church and commit to getting to know and to pray for her.
- Keep a list of requests individuals have shared with you, pray for them, and follow up with inquiries as to how the Lord is answering.

Encouragements

- Call, email, or text those who are going through difficult times and find out how they are doing and how you can pray for them. Especially important for women who live by themselves.
- Brief texts, emails, or calls with words of encouragement not only at times of crisis but at any time.
- Send greeting cards or e-cards and include Scripture verses. The Wednesday night prayer sheet is a good place to find out who needs a word encouragement.
- Get to know a college student, ask how you can pray for her during the semester, send an encouraging note, or some homemade cookies. Invite her to pray with you occasionally on a Wednesday night.

- Share titles of good books that you have read or loan them.

Gifts

- Send someone an anonymous gift basket at special times or for just ‘no good reason!’
- Choose a family you want to minister to and give small gifts to the children: stickers, stuffed animals, small Christmas gifts, books, Bibles, etc.
- If you like to work with your hands, make useful homemade gifts such as potholders, aprons, greeting cards, etc.
- Give gifts of flowers (home grown ones are lovely), fruit baskets, fresh vegetables, etc.
- If you do calligraphy, stamping, sketching, or painting, letter a verse or a hymn stanza or make a hand-crafted card to brighten a shut-in’s room.
- Gift cards for a night out for dinner or a gift card for lunch for the kids at Chick-Fil-A.
- Send a beautifully illustrated Scripture verse card.

Visiting

- Visit the home-bound and those in hospitals and care facilities.
- Take small gifts, read Scripture and pray with them, sing with them.
- Visit elderly women and ask them to share how the Lord has worked in their lives. You will go away blessed!

Hospitality

- Invite single women, young and older, who are living by themselves to join in small gatherings or to join in family game night etc.
- At holiday times invite over those without families nearby.
- Organize small get togethers with women you don't know well and share testimonies or pray together.
- Invite a few women from church to a get together to welcome and get to know someone new who is coming to church.
- Invite groups of people who might not know each other well over for a meal. Several young couples, an older couple and a young family, several single women, etc. Use your hospitality as a place for people to get to know each other.
- Invite someone's children over to do a project or an activity.

Meals

- Cook one or two extra servings and take a meal to someone or invite them over.
- Offer to pick up groceries for mothers with newborns or caregivers.
- Go together with someone else to take a meal to someone if you are not able to do it by yourself.
- Many eating places have take-outs now, so if you don't have the time to prepare a meal purchase one and deliver it to their home.

Errands and odd jobs

- Offer to run errands for the home-bound, moms with newborns, those who are ill or recovering from surgery.

- Take the trash containers out to the street and return them on trash pick-up day for the elderly and infirmed.
- Offer to do grocery shopping or a grocery pick-up.
- Offer to do seasonal outdoor chores.

Rides

- Offer rides for seniors to church, church outings, other activities, etc. and invite them to sit with you.
- Offer rides to doctor's appointments or therapy.

Moms

- Offer to babysit for a couple and give them a gift card for a night out.
- When a mom has a newborn, offer to keep older children, take them to a park, etc. so she can rest. This would also apply to moms who have just had surgery or are sick.
- Share children's clothing

Caregivers

- Offer to stay with their loved one so they can take some time away for a few hours or even overnight.
- Provide rides for their children for school, music lessons, etc.

Involving your Children—of all ages

- Have your children bake goodies, color pictures, or make artwork for seniors, shut-ins, the sick, someone recovering from surgery, Sunday school teachers, etc.
- Have your children, sons and daughters, help the elderly and infirmed with age-appropriate small jobs such as lawn work, putting Christmas decoration up in the attic, house cleaning jobs, etc.

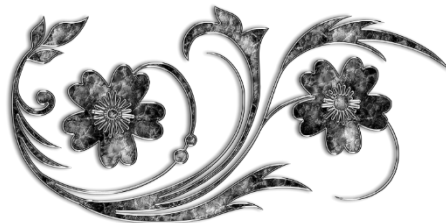
- Gather a small group of friends to visit the elderly or infirmed and sing for them.
- Have your children email children of similar age on the mission field so that when they come home on furlough, they have some connections.
- Most women love hugs from 'kids!'

Miscellaneous

- Look through the directory and see who from church lives close to you and get to know them.
- Let people know you are available if they need help with anything.
- Minister together as a family (yardwork, housework, visiting, take small gifts, sing).

Ministry to One Another at Church

- Come early and stay late for services so you can get to know people.
- Invite others to sit with your family.
- Greet children by their first name.
- Pray that the Lord will make you a blessing to someone each time you come.
- Look for new people who are coming and introduce yourself.
- Be alert for those who appear to be discouraged or are by themselves and reach out to them.
- Smile! 😊



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