

AGLOW[®]

INTERNATIONAL

*The International
Local Handbook*

*For Women and Men
in Aglow*

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A SPECIAL NOTE TO LOCAL LEADERS

Since we cannot be with each of you personally, we have prepared this handbook to acquaint you with the Aglow ministry and provide you with the tools necessary for carrying out this wonderful Kingdom work. You will find basic principles of leadership and ideas to assist you as you reach out in your community. You will find guidelines that are necessary for the smooth functioning of local boards, community ministries, and monthly public meetings. Our intention is that all Local, Area, and National Aglow leaders, new and experienced be blessed and upgraded in your leadership skills as you read the information contained in these pages.

This handbook is intended for use by *both* women's and men's Aglow groups.

Each member of the executive board should have his or her own copy. You are free to copy and distribute pages of this handbook as they apply to ministry coordinators and helpers, advisors, and the attendees of your Aglow fellowship.

Throughout this handbook these Aglow terms are interchangeable:

- Team and Board
- Team Member and Officer
- Lighthouse and Fellowship
- Local Leaders and Lighthouse Leaders
- The use of the term "member" does not necessarily constitute "membership". The term is used to refer to anyone attending an Aglow fellowship.
- The term Apostolic Leader does not mean one is an apostle. It means you walk in the apostolic anointing upon the ministry to begin new works, see souls saved and to carry out Aglow's Vision Statement.

We realize there will be diversity within the ministry. What works culturally in one nation or a community, will need a different expression in another nation or community. The creativity of God exceeds our wildest dreams. For this reason, we do allow for some *flexibility* in the guidelines for how the vision of Aglow might be expressed in the nations.

It is also wonderful to know that wherever you go in the world, *Aglow is the same*. Despite geographic and cultural differences, you can visit an Aglow meeting or conference *anywhere* and feel that you belong. The Aglow community has a *unity of spirit and purpose* that unites and ignites us all. Our unity is strengthened as leaders all over the world as we *follow basic guidelines and policies* established by the Global Headquarters. We thank you for your cooperation and conscientiousness in this area. Enjoy your journey as you venture into the rest of this exciting handbook!

A LETTER FROM AGLOW INTERNATIONAL'S PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

I welcome those of you who are new to the Aglow ministry. At times you will be challenged as you find your way. I want to encourage you that many leaders have gone before you and faced each challenge and come out on the other side filled with greater peace and wisdom. It will be the same for you.

For those of you who are currently serving in leadership positions, I encourage you to read this handbook with new eyes to see what God is doing in and through Aglow today. One of the greatest challenges to a new move of the Spirit is parts of an old move that are still working.

We are not the same ministry we were in the early days of our inception. A great shift began in 2003. We completed an 8 year cycle in 2011 and the worldwide conference in Houston, Texas, marked a profound transformation, establishing our future direction as a ministry. Times have changed and Aglow is becoming a prototype that displays Heaven on earth.

As apostolic leaders who have been called and chosen, reach out into your communities as carriers of the truth of the Kingdom that restores people to a radiant place of relationship with God and one another. Bring the truth of the Kingdom that breaks the tyranny of oppression and brings freedom and empowerment to those you reach.

New life has been formed in this ministry. Something of the Spirit has been stirring our depths with a greater desire to move into a deeper level of relationship with God and to be a greater expression of His life, His goodness, and His love to the world around us. There is a fresh impetus of His Spirit on all we have known that is causing us to move to a glorious new place in the Spirit.

The words of our conference speakers, and prophetic words that have been spoken over Aglow in recent years, refer not only to God's intentionality towards this ministry, but of our identity, our destiny, and our inheritance. As the leader of this ministry, I boldly proclaim that I am not looking to another church or another ministry for a fresh move of the Spirit, I am looking for a fresh move of God's Spirit within Aglow!

I believe that God has made His destiny for Aglow very clear which is to be a transformational kingdom culture. We know our identity and we know we have an inheritance. It is time for us to arise to the place that God has prepared for us. Thank you for being a part of this mighty company of women and men in Aglow as we press forward to fulfil His plans and purposes in the earth. THIS IS THE TIME OF YOUR ARISING!



*Jane Hansen Hoyt
President/CEO
Aglow International*

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PART 1:

SECTION 1: THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE MINISTRY

WHAT IS AGLOW?

Aglow is known as a radiant group of encouragers who continually speak of who God is and who God is in us.

The word *Aglow* is taken from Romans 12:11 in The Amplified Bible: “Never lag in zeal and earnest endeavor; be aglow and burning with the Spirit.”

Aglow began in 1967 as a Christian ministry for women and was opened to women of all denominations. Long before an official announcement was made in 2009 by the International Board of Directors to welcome men in Aglow, men saw what God was doing among women and began forming groups for men in 2003. Today men and women are welcome to participate in all God is doing through Aglow.

Currently, Aglow is mobilizing millions around the world into a company of warriors, champions, and global leaders of significance. In each nation powerful Kingdom communities are being founded on the fullness of Christ where people are empowered to develop resources that enable them to take advantage of all that God is releasing from Heaven.

**AGLOW IS A TRANSFORMATIONAL KINGDOM CULTURE
WITH A MINDSET NOT OF THIS WORLD.**

OUR STATEMENT OF BELIEF

As a tri-generational, transdenominational, Kingdom community, we recognize there may be cultural differences in interpretation of the Bible among Christians; however, there are certain basic Biblical beliefs to which all Aglow leaders must believe and submit to in order to serve in a place of leadership.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

- » **We believe** in the one and only triune God. We acknowledge there is one true God consisting of three distinct persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. (1John 5:5-8; John 1:1; Matt. 28:19-20 NKJV)
- » **We believe** that the Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, crucified, died, was buried, and was resurrected. He ascended into Heaven and is now seated at the right hand of God the Father and is true God and true man. (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John NKJV)
- » **We believe** that the Bible in its entirety is composed of the Old and New Testaments; is the Word of God, fully inspired and written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and is our rule of faith and practice. (2Tim.3:16-17 NKJV)
- » **We believe** that all are born sinners; the Holy Spirit convicts of sin; the Lord Jesus Christ paid the price for sin by shedding His precious blood on the cross as the atonement for sin; those who refuse to accept His sacrifice for their sin are eternally lost; and those who repent of their sin and personally accept the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior receive the forgiveness of sin and life everlasting and are indwelt by the Holy Spirit. (Acts 3:19-21; Rom. 10:9-13; 1Cor 6:9-11 NKJV)
- » **We believe** in the baptism of the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues as the Spirit of God gives utterance, that all the gifts of the Holy Spirit are valid and operative today, and that the fruit of the Holy Spirit should be increasingly evident in a Christian's life. (1Cor.12:7-11; Mark 16:17, Acts 2:4; Gal. 5:22-23; Eph. 5:8-10 NKJV)
- » **We believe** that the redemptive work of the Lord Jesus Christ provides healing for our spirit, soul, and body. (Jer. 17:14; Jer. 33:6; Is. 53:5; Matt. 10:8 NKJV)
- » **We believe** that we should obey Jesus' command to preach the gospel to all the world. (Matt. 12:14; Matt. 28:19-20; Ps. 96:3; Rev. 14:6-7 NKJV)
- » **We believe** that the members of the Body of Christ are the Church and that they should regularly fellowship with one another in a local church setting. (Acts 2:41-42; Heb. 10:24-25; Matt. 18-20; Col. 3:16 NKJV)
- » **We believe** in baptism by water. (Mark 1:8-9; Matt. 3:6;11,16 NKJV)
- » **We believe** in and look for the personal return of the Lord Jesus Christ. (1Thes. 4:16-17; Heb. 9:28; Rev. 1:7; Matt. 24:36, 44; John 14: 1-3; Acts 1:11 NKJV)
- » **We believe** in God's immutable creation of men and women to reflect His image. (Gen 1:27 NKJV)
- » **We believe** each person's body is the temple of the Holy Spirit and that we are to glorify God in our bodies. (Rom. 12:1; 1 Cor. 6:18-20 NKJV).
- » **We believe** we are to walk in the Spirit and to flee sexual immorality. (Gal. 5:16; 1 Cor. 6:9-10; Gal 5; 19-21; Rev. 21:8 NKJV)

- » **We believe** that the Bible defines marriage as the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union (Gen. 2:18-25 NKJV).
- » **We believe** that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman within the confines of marriage (1 Cor. 7:2-5; Heb. 13:4; Mark 10:6-9 NKJV)
- » **We believe** that God’s design for sexual intimacy in the context of marriage between one man and one woman does not allow for the practice of homosexuality, both male and female, and that the practice of homosexuality is incompatible with Biblical teaching. (1 Cor. 6:9-10; Rom. 1:24-27; Eph. 5:31-32; 1Cor; 7:2; Mark 10; 6-9; Heb. 13:4 NKJV)
- » **We believe** that marriage is not a human institution, but is a specific divine metaphor that illustrates the union of Christ and the church. Only a union between a man and a woman can properly illustrate the relationship between Christ and His church. (Eph. 5:22-32 NKJV)
- » **We believe** in and provide an atmosphere of love and restoration that creates a setting and a place of safety for those who struggle with gender issues, whereby they can live according to stated Biblical teachings and not according to the dictates of their own beliefs. (1 Peter 1:22 NKJV. “Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart.”)

* **NOTE:** If for some reason you are unable to use the wording in this paragraph within your nation, you may use an alternate wording as follows: “We believe in the baptism of the Holy Spirit, speaking in tongues as the Spirit of God gives utterance, that all the gifts of the Holy Spirit are valid and operative today, and that the fruit of the Holy Spirit should be increasingly event in a Christian’s life.”

AGLOW'S IDENTITY STATEMENT, VISION, MISSION, AND GOAL

One of the most important things to come out of the Aglow International Board of Directors Meeting in 2019 was a new vision and mission statement and a new set of core values. As we have seen and felt God moving us to a new place in Him, we realized that our mission statement must be upgraded.

Since Aglow began in 1967, we have had several mission statements. As our identity became more in focus, our statements grew to reflect that identity. In the past, we have referred to the statement that guides us as a *mission* statement. Today, we are renaming that statement that inspires us to action as a *vision* statement.

In looking at the meaning of the words “vision” and “mission,” perhaps the easiest way to explain the use of vision over mission is to add “ary” to each word and look at their definitions. A *visionary* is someone who is casting *vision* for the future – the big picture. A *missionary* is one who carries out the work of that vision.

A good *vision statement* is inspiring. It is a statement that is both bold and broad. It is a statement that encompasses everything we do and leaves expansion for our future. *Vision is not about direction. It is about the height a movement wishes to achieve.*

IDENTITY STATEMENT

Aglow is an international organization of women and men in more than 170 nations of the world, presenting Biblical principles as solutions to the challenging issues of our time.

OUR VISION STATEMENT

To propel the Kingdom forward through the elevation of the knowledge of God.

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission statement explains how we intend to do the things our vision statement says. An effective mission statement is specific and descriptive of the actual work to be undertaken by a movement. It should answer the questions, “Why do we exist?” and “What do we do?” With that in mind, our new mission statement is:

The Kingdom of God is the realization of the love, grace, power, and rule of God on earth.

Aglow International is a Kingdom Movement committed to:

- » Living from the Presence of God, creating the same atmosphere on earth as it is in Heaven.
- » Assembling millions into a company of warriors, champions, and global leaders of significance equipped with a Biblical worldview.
- » Building the Kingdom in all communities, cities and nations by developing apostolic teams that demonstrate the power of Heaven.

GOAL

Tag lines change from time to time. In March 2012, a new goal replaced “a network of caring women” and “bringing global vision to a woman’s world.” While we still *are* a network who cares and brings global vision, we have grown to a new place that encompasses so much more.

Aglow’s new goal is:

Every nation touched, every heart changed.

We encourage you to take time to read over the Vision, Mission, and Identity Statements and memorize the goal. Let them sink into your spirit. As was spoken to us at our International Conference in Houston, “Aglow has grown up. We have passed our tests. It is the time of our arising!” It is time for us to step into who we are and we must do this individually, as well as, corporately.

AGLOW’S MANDATES

God has spoken three mandates to Aglow. They are prophetic, apostolic and end-time in nature and work hand-in-hand with Aglow’s Vision and Mission Statements.

The three mandates, spoken in ten-year segments, (see below) coupled with a strong foundation of prayer and evangelism, have served to form the direction of the ministry in powerful ways.

Our mandates are:

- To promote gender reconciliation between male and female in the Body of Christ as God designed from Genesis 1-3. (1981)
- To answer God’s call to minister to the Muslim people (1991)
- To stand in loving support for Israel and the Jewish people, while helping to bring awareness to the Body of Christ concerning God’s plans and purposes for the nation of Israel. (2001)

As Aglow Leaders, we are privileged to be called, commissioned, and entrusted by God to work with Him to uphold the mandates He has given to Aglow.

ANTI-TRAFFICKING

We have also heard God’s heart on behalf of the 32 million people trapped in modern-day slavery worldwide. In 2011, the International Board of Directors made the decision to pursue all avenues that address the issues of enslavement, oppression and abuse of people such as human trafficking and forced labor. Therefore, we have begun to work on behalf of those who have fallen prey to this growing global criminal industry.

We are committed to carrying the truth of the Kingdom that breaks the tyranny behind human trafficking and brings those oppressed to a place of freedom and empowerment.

AGLOW'S CORE VALUES

As a Kingdom Community, Aglow International is absolutely committed to...

- 1. God's Presence**
Creating an atmosphere and environment of worship for the presence of God to be encountered. (Psalm 22:3)
- 2. Relationship**
Treating each other with integrity, openness, honesty, non-negotiable love and goodness. (1 Peter 4:8)
- 3. Redemption**
Partnering with God for the redemption of all things according to the Gospel. (Colossians 1:13-14)
- 4. Freedom**
Standing firm against everything that enslaves. (Galatians 5:1)
- 5. Restoration**
Bringing every identity into alignment with the purposes of God. (Romans 12:2, Ephesians 4:22-24)
- 6. The Beloved**
Living as a community who knows they are the beloved, and establishes their identity as the Bride. (Song of Solomon 7:10, Ephesians 1:6)
- 7. Goodness**
Demonstrating goodness as the power of God to always overcome evil. (Romans 12:21, Acts 10:38)
- 8. Radiance**
Having radiant encounters with God, leading to a brilliant experience of who Christ is in us. (Ephesians 1:17-20)
- 9. God's Kingdom**
Expressing the nature of God through reconciliation, to the world He loves. (2 Corinthians 5:18-20, Colossians 1:19,20)
- 10. Supernatural Power**
Moving in signs, wonders and miracles to demonstrate the heaven-to-earth nature of life in the Spirit. (Mark 16:17-18, 1 Corinthians 12:4-11)

HOW IS AGLOW ORGANIZED?

BASIC AGLOW STRUCTURE IN THE INTERNATIONAL FIELD OF AGLOW

Following are the levels of leadership in Aglow relating in these ways:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The International Board of Directors is comprised of both women and men and is the governing board of the ministry, responsible for establishing the overall direction and policies for the ministry globally. The Board of Directors meets annually with the President/CEO.

AGLOW GLOBAL HEADQUARTERS

The President/CEO, Executive Directors and others on the headquarters staff work together to care for the Aglow ministry worldwide. The Global Field Office - USA serves Aglow in the United States. The Global Field Office - International serves Aglow in other nations.

REGIONAL COMMITTEES

All across the globe there are Regional Committees which are made up of National Leaders from that region of the world; they relate directly to the Global Field Office – International at Aglow Headquarters. **The goal of the Regional Committees is to help coordinate working relationships among national leaders within a region**, each bringing perspective from their nation to strengthen Aglow culturally. To become more united as a group of nations, and to maintain the same heart and vision established by the Aglow International Board of Directors. There are eight regional committees at this time

- Africa Committee
- Asia Regional Committee
- Caribbean Regional Committee
- European Regional Committee
- Mexico/Central America/Panama Regional Committee
- The Middle East Regional Committee
- South American Regional Committee
- South Pacific Regional Committee

THE NATIONAL BOARD

This level can consist of a combination of at least five women and men who oversee the entire Aglow ministry (including all local and area boards) within their nation(s). National boards are established at the direction of Global Field Office - International at Aglow Headquarters.

The following serve temporarily until such a time as a national board can be affiliated.

THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE

This group can consist of a combination of at least three women and men who are responsible for overseeing the Aglow ministry within a nation, while continuing to work closely with a national director, coordinator, or board.

NATIONAL DIRECTOR Approved by the Global Field Office - International at Aglow Headquarters, to care for and give oversight to the local fellowships and the entire Aglow ministry *within a continent or group of nations*, **until such time as national boards may become established.**

NATIONAL COORDINATOR Approved by the Global Field Office - International to care for and give oversight to the local fellowships and the entire Aglow **ministry within one specific nation until such a time as a national board may become established.**

NATIONAL ASSISTANT Approved by Global Field Office - International, to work alongside a national director or coordinator when assistance is required in overseeing the Aglow work.

THE AREA BOARD

The level can consist of a combination of three to five women and men; the board cares for and gives oversight to the local fellowships in their geographic area. **Area boards are begun at the direction of the national leadership or Global Field Office - International at Aglow Headquarters.**

THE LOCAL BOARD

This level of leadership consists of three to five women *or* men who oversee the local fellowship as it **reaches out to people in the community or area with the truth of the Kingdom that restores people to a radiant place of relationship with God, bringing freedom and empowerment in their lives and others.** (The Local Board is made up of either women or men.)

CANDLELIGHT LEADERS

When sufficient leadership cannot be found to make a Local Board, a Candlelight Group may begin. This is a simpler format of Aglow, allowing a Bible Study group, prayer group or a community outreach to become officially affiliated with Aglow International. Candlelight groups can be made up of either women *or* men. Also, Couples Groups can be affiliated.

AGLOW - A MOVEMENT WITH AN APOSTOLIC ANOINTING

Aglow is not the same ministry it was in the 1970s, 1980s, or even 1990s. While our core values and “DNA” have not changed, our vision and call has expanded and grown. We are being defined as a “movement” by leaders in the body of Christ.

Movement is different from ministry.

Movement speaks of change, a journey, forward motion, and expansion. As God’s Spirit has directed us over the past 45 years, we can see He has continued to move us forward in the unfolding revelation of His heart.

Part of the unfolding revelation for each Aglow leader is the acknowledgement that we, as a movement, have an *apostolic anointing*. Another piece of unfolding revelation is the understanding of what it means to walk in that anointing.

Movement:
A group of people working toward or favoring a common goal.

Walking or functioning under a corporate apostolic anointing doesn’t mean that every Aglow leader is an apostle. It does mean that you will exhibit traits of an apostle because of the apostolic anointing that covers the ministry.

WHAT IS AN APOSTLE?

An apostle is one who is sent by God and given authority to affect the place she or he is sent. An apostle is one who pioneers new moves and stirs people to do more, shakes them from complacency, and motivates them to reach a goal. An apostle is sent to establish the kingdom of God in the hearts of people and often preaches certain revelations that God is releasing to the Church.

Our leader, Jane Hansen Hoyt, has been recognized by leaders in the Body of Christ as an apostle. When Jane was chosen as the International President of Aglow, she brought an ancient revelation from Genesis 1-3 that had been expanding in her heart. It was a message first spoken when God established dominion in the earth and showed for all times what that would look like. Dominion would be both the male and female working together that would fully display God’s glory in the earth.

Under Jane’s leadership, and those who serve with her, the ministry of Aglow has exploded from 21 nations into nearly 170 nations of the world. Under her leadership, three apostolic, end-time mandates were given by God to us.

In 1981, Jane first spoke the male/female reconciliation message. In the summer of 2009, she delivered this powerful message at the Promise Keeper’s 20th Anniversary event in Colorado before thousands of men and their wives. In 1991, a prophetic word was given to Aglow regarding Islam. In 2001, Jane received a public anointing as an Esther that has led us to walk with and support the nation of Israel and the Jewish people.

These three mandates came ten years apart. They were not decided around a board table. They were given by the Holy Spirit to us, IF we would accept them. On our behalf, our leader accepted each mandate and today all three are being spoken in nearly 170 nations of the world, in villages and communities, everywhere groups of Aglow people gather.

Walking in an apostolic anointing may require a new mindset.

Receive that mindset by acknowledging the anointing upon the ministry. Allow the Holy Spirit to begin to shift your mindset. Aglow leaders have been mantled with an apostolic anointing for end-time work.

As a leader in this ministry, you have been called by God to serve and to be part of fulfilling the purposes on His heart for the world.

‘Walking in an apostolic anointing’ means to function under the overall anointing on the ministry of Aglow.

Here are a few of the characteristics of the apostolic anointing:

➤ **Breaks into new territories and pioneers new works**

Aglow has been pioneering new works around the world since its inception. Every time you affiliate a new Local Fellowship, you are functioning under the apostolic anointing on the ministry.

➤ **Establishes and equips leaders in the new work**

When you provide leadership development, you are functioning under an apostolic anointing. When you encourage Local/Area leaders to seek God for their purpose in their community, you are helping them discover how to bring apostolic leadership into their community as they fulfill the dreams and visions God has given them for their individual town.

Aglow is a global apostolic ministry and we are about advancing the kingdom in the nations.

➤ **Maintains the vision for the local community, while embracing and maintaining a global perspective, a vision beyond the individual group**

Sound familiar? Aglow’s vision has grown and expanded on every level of the ministry. While holding an National event, your team continues to minister woman-to-woman, heart-to-heart to those who need to know the healing, restoring love of Jesus Christ. However, we have received a greater awareness of the larger vision of the ministry: Male/Female reconciliation in the Body of Christ, Islam, and Israel.

➤ **Governs, or gives oversight**

As a team, you give oversight and leadership to an area of land and the Local/Area teams within that area. The best leadership comes through relationship. The apostolic is based on relationship. Jane Hansen Hoyt said it this way:

...the strongest purpose of the apostolic call is to see Christ formed in His disciples by leading His people into an ever-deeper experience of the life given to us in Christ. The apostolic is not about stature, position, titles, power, or control. It is more about relationship than it is about government.

➤ **Operates in spiritual authority**

Graham Cooke said this about the power of prayer through Aglow:

Intercession has given Aglow a powerful voice in Heaven. They [Aglow] have now entered a season where their voice will become potent here on the earth.

At the 2009 Conference in Louisville, KY, he said:

Move from petition types of prayer to prayers of proclamation. Proclamation has a different power source. It comes from what God has already said to us.

Your team has the ability to penetrate any defense set up by the powers of darkness. As you walk in the authority God has entrusted to you, your stance against the enemy's power in your family, community, and area, is one of offense, not defense. Jane has said, "Often we think of Satan as our enemy. The truth is, WE ARE HIS ENEMY!"

Leaders in the ministry lead with intentionality to see the prophetic words spoken over the ministry come to pass. You know that every situation has been designed to discover God's presence in a new and greater way. You walk in peace. You believe what God has said will come to pass. You call out for it to be on earth as it is in heaven!

APOSTOLIC LEADERS ARE REALLY SPIRITUAL WARRIORS!

Spiritual warriors are not moved by circumstances. They are moved by the Word of God. They have learned to be at peace and to operate, like Jesus, from a place of rest. Think of Jesus in the boat on the Sea of Galilee. A situation was occurring. All the disciples, the ones He was building relationship with, were in a pickle. The wind was picking up. The waves were getting higher. And what was Jesus doing? Sleeping peacefully in the boat. The *same* boat they were in. He was at peace. Their peace was disturbed.

Every situation has two responses. One response can be found on earth – a storm is raging, freak out! And one response can be found in heaven – speak to the storm from a place of peace and it will obey and turn from rage to calm.

You can lead from a place of peace if you have spent time with God. Know Him and be confident that if He is for you, who can be against you? Be convinced that God wants to reveal Himself to your team in greater revelations. That He wants to bring to you new experiences of His grace and power. He wants His radiant love to shine through you into each community. Our goal then, is to become a greater partaker of Christ. Then we can turn and feed a multitude. Like Father. Like Son. Like Spiritual Warrior.

As you align yourself with God's purposes through this ministry, and exercise your spiritual leadership with love and commitment, you will be mantled with warfare strategy to destroy strongholds and to change mind sets that have ruled in your area. You are bringing the Kingdom to the area in which God has placed you.

As you lead, listen as locks unlock over your nation! Knowing who you are, speaking forth the vision that flows from the Worldwide Headquarters, and realizing the size, the power, and the authority God has given to you as a National Leader will enable you to stand firm in your leadership responsibilities. We don't whine. We don't beg. We walk in the Kingdom on earth and see situations change from earthly to heavenly. Exude confidence in the strong apostolic mantel covering your team as you function in the portion of land entrusted to your leadership. You are well able to take the land and bring forth fruit. God believes in you, Spiritual Warrior, and so do we!

WHERE THE HOLY SPIRIT IS TAKING US

AGLOW'S BEGINNINGS

Aglow began as a Spirit-led, woman to woman ministry in 1967, when four women prayed for women to come together without denominational boundaries. Today in over 45 years of ministry, we have spread throughout 170 nations of the world and have grown to include men's, couples' and tri-generational groups.

At the writing of this *handbook*, Aglow has transformed from what we once were, into a force that is needed for today's end time work. A Kingdom Company filled with warriors, champions and global leaders of significance, Aglow is establishing powerful Kingdom communities in cities, towns, and villages in every nation. We do this through teachings that are opening the eyes of the Body of Christ to see their true identity of who God made them to be in Christ.

OUR GLOBAL PROPHETIC/APOSTOLIC CALL

God has never allowed us to settle. He has not allowed us to get caught in a former dimension. It is as though His hand has been in our back, moving us forward into where He wants us to be. Aglow has a prophetic destiny to fulfill and as Jane Hansen Hoyt says, "You have been born for this!"

Internationally known Messianic leader, Asher Intrater, founder of Revive Israel, spoke a word at the 2005 worldwide conference in Nashville, Tennessee:

The spiritual destiny of a nation is carried by the remnant of believers within that nation...God's purpose and destiny for a nation cannot be understood by looking at the unbelievers of that nation. When God looks at a nation, He looks at it like a piece of fruit – like a nut with a shell surrounding it. The unbelievers are like the outer shell, but we, the believers, are the part God is looking at as the bearers of national destiny. God's purpose and the destiny for your nation are not found in the outer shell of the unbelievers, but in the core fruit of the believing remnant of the nation!

So who does God look to in cities or nations to determine destiny? He looks to the believers who are walking in their true identity in Christ! Knowing who we are, we walk in the authority of Heaven, and see situations in our nations align with Heaven's plan. God has entrusted destiny into our hands. He depends on us to get His heart for our cities and bring His will to earth. That is the definition of a Kingdom call. Aglow's purpose in the earth is HUGE!

Asher Intrater spoke a second message to Aglow in 2009. Near the end of his message he asked three important questions.

- 1. Will you be the warriors, the Bride on this earth to invite Jesus back?**
- 2. Will you be like Mary and help birth Jesus back into this planet again?**
- 3. Will you accept this Joshua mandate to take possession of planet earth again? Take dominion over this earth and kick the devil out of here and bring Jesus back? Are you willing to do that?**

Asher's message is about taking dominion on the earth. On earth as it is in Heaven. He spent a great deal of time talking about the second coming of Jesus and the misconceptions we have about this important event. And most importantly, Asher spoke about the Bride that is us making herself ready.

Since 2004, *Graham Cooke* has spoken to Aglow with a growing intensity about our persona. The word persona means "sound" and the "sound" we make comes from our truly knowing our identity. It is

about knowing who we are in Christ and who Christ is in us. In 2008 he delivered a profound prophetic message where God was speaking to Aglow from the future and describing to us what is to come.

God told us that an upgrade in our identity is coming and that we would become a prototype on the earth like people had never seen. God told us that the biggest danger to this new move that is coming is the old move that might still be working. (This message delivered in 2008 can be found in its entirety by logging into MyAglow on the Aglow website and looking under resources for the Global Leader Development Materials. It is available in French, English and Spanish.)

Today we are helping people grow into the next stage of their identity while helping them see their placement in the new move of God.

In 2010, Jane Hansen Hoyt shared a prophetic word she received from one of Graham Cooke's intercessory teams.

As they prayed, this is what came, I saw a lighthouse with a sign posted "under renovation" that which had become worn and dull was being renewed and the colors were vibrant. The light in the lighthouse was being replaced with an upgraded model. In the spirit, I saw that this new light would be vastly more powerful. It would shine brighter; it would shine further than what it was able to do before. It will push back the darkness. It will reveal hidden dangers and it will give warning. It will become a beacon in the night in which people will run to. They will want to see. They will want to taste. They will be drawn to the glory that rests upon you. This is God's lighthouse, the word went on, and He is the one doing the renovations which are inconvenient and uncomfortable, but very necessary.

Have you ever lived through a remodel? It is messy. You have a vision of what it will look like. The end product will be wonderful. But the process of getting there is dusty and messy. It is worth it. Aglow is being upgraded in a big way. Its former light will be nothing compared to the new. The glory of what He is forming in the latter house – that is you. The glory that He is forming within us will be greater than the previous house. Aglow will reach farther. Aglow will make more impact for the kingdom than even the leaders have envisioned. Watch and see what the Lord will do.

Apostolic Leadership

God's call upon Aglow is to fulfill the destiny of cities, states, and nations. By answering the call to serve in a leadership position, you have become part of a vast network that functions under a strong apostolic anointing. The call is not about stature, position, titles, power, or control. It is first and foremost about relationship. It is about leaders who break into new territory and pioneer new works while building relationships with those in their town.

Expect creative ideas to come!

Expect signs and wonders!

Expect breakthrough!

VISION FROM JANE HANSEN HOYT

I believe the September, 2011, Aglow Worldwide Conference in Houston, was a milestone (landmark) in the history of Aglow. A fresh impetus of God's Spirit is upon us. As the leader of this ministry, I boldly proclaim that I am not looking to another church or another ministry for a fresh move of the Spirit. I am looking for a fresh move of God's Spirit within Aglow! There is a quickening Spirit upon the truths that He is making so real to us at this time. This fresh impetus of His Spirit is causing us to move to a glorious new place in the Spirit. We have come into a new place. Old things have passed away and new things are emerging!

In 2003 there was a prophetic shift that took place in Aglow. It was as though He unplugged us from the past and rewired us for our future. Up until that time, when I would look back at the conference themes that we had down through the years, the themes were focused on women and God telling us who we are, speaking to us about the restoration of men and women. Aglow began with the restoration of women, but we have moved into the fullness of what God intended for Himself from the beginning.

Your identity is shifting and moving and changing. New mantels are falling. It is a time to step into the fullness of your identity and who God has called you to be as an individual and also Aglow for as a ministry to step into the fullness of our Kingdom call.

When God gives a prophetic word over a person, an individual or a ministry He is actually telling us how He views us, how He sees us. He is speaking to us from our future, from our destiny, speaking into the present, and saying, "This is how I see you. I want you to begin to walk in your destiny and in your identity."

Prophetic words stir hope. They stir a sense of your future. They stir and bring an atmosphere. If you have been a part of Aglow for any period of time, you can sense that the words have been building one upon the other upon the other.

This year, (2011) is our 38th conference. The number 38 means enslavement. In John 5 there was a man by the pool of Bethesda. He had been there 38 years. He was enslaved within a body that would not function in the way God purposed or intended. He was locked into an old mindset, an old way of thinking. One day Jesus appeared on the scene and said to him, "Why is it you are here by the pool?" The man said, "I have been here 38 years. And when the waters have stirred, you have to get there quickly because if you do not get into the waters while they are stirred, you will not be healed." And Jesus said, "Well, why don't you just take up your bed and walk?" "Something had shifted and healing was coming in a different way than this man expected. It was up to him to believe and receive that word and step into the new mindset, the new way.

I believe that is what God is doing in this ministry. He is coming to us in a different way than perhaps we have experienced Him in the past. He is coming to us in a way that is transforming old mindsets and bringing forth new mindsets. There is something that is growing and changing, God wants to bring Heaven to earth and He wants to do it through you. He wants to do it through this ministry.

There has been an atmosphere stirred over us by the prophetic words, not only in this conference but if you look back, we see in 2004 Dutch Sheets gave the key word, Isaiah 22:22, "I am giving you a key that will unlock and open doors that no man can shut and will shut doors that no man can open." You will have the authority to say this stays, this goes. This is opened, this is closed.

Women, God has spoken to us, specifically since 1980 from Genesis 3:15. "And the enmity that God put between the enemy and women." It is something the enemy has known from the beginning. When the woman was the first one to speak out and uncover and expose the enemy for who he really is. She said, "He deceived me and I ate."

And God spoke into that and said, "Now forever and ever Satan, down through time she will be used again and again and again to expose you and to call you who you really are. I, God, am putting enmity between you, Satan, and the woman. Between your seed and her seed and there will come a seed from the woman that will be to your utter destruction. But the seed that comes from you will merely bruise the heel."

That has been the prophetic word hanging over Satan. All of these years he fears the awakening and the arising and the shining that is in the woman. He has understood from the beginning because God spoke it to him that the woman is his enemy. He is not our enemy, we are his.

I believe this is the hour. I believe that there has been much preparation. There has been much healing. There has been much that has taken place in the female gender. In the last eight years, we have begun to see men come in. We have begun to see ourselves walking together in unity, in a way that delights the heart of God and speaks of His heart from the beginning. I believe this is the beginning of a greater thing that has yet to come because it is male/female together.

When God spoke of our unity in Genesis, He told us what dominion would look like - it was the man and the woman functioning together. We have given birth to that. We have passed our test. There have been things of preparation that God has been doing in us but I believe we have come to the fullness of time. Something is emerging in this ministry that speaks of the majesty and the glorious purpose of God, even as He spoke it back in the beginning.

*It is our time, it is our hour, and it is our moment. When that shift occurred in 2003 and the Key of Authority was given into our hands, these are not just fun little things that happen in a conference to make us feel happy while we are there. **This is God telling us how He sees us, how He views us, how He expects us to begin to rise up and walk in the earth.***

Those times are God giving us our identity. He is calling us in a very purposeful and intentional way in this hour to rise up and become what He has purposed us to become. We are living in time of great opportunity. We need to shift our mindsets, shift our thinking and begin to see this as a time of great opportunity of how we can deposit into people's lives, how we can reach out to one another, how we can show Heaven on earth.

You have been prepared for this time. We as a ministry have been prepared for this time. You cannot go back to your nation, your city or your community with old mindsets. God has been building His life in you to such a place that you are seeing Him in all of His glory and His majesty. That is what you are taking back to your nations.

What we are called to do in the earth is HUGE! There is a breakthrough anointing on Aglow to boldly go forth in the world. God has equipped you as a leader and has deposited within you through Christ all that you need to do His work in your community. As a leader who is in Christ and who knows your identity, you will be the first to see the need, envision the plan and take action to achieve success. As you read through this *Local Handbook*, your assignment will become clear and your resolve strengthened. The plans God has for your community will emerge out of the unseen realm into everyday life. Welcome to leadership and welcome to the family of Aglow!

For further messages and teachings, log onto the Aglow web site www.Aglow.org.

SECTION 2: ESTABLISHING AGLOW IN YOUR COMMUNITY

TRANSFORMING YOUR COMMUNITY

God's plan has always been simple and it has always included people. Think of the excitement Jesus caused one day by lingering near a well, waiting for a certain woman to come. When she arrived, He asked her for a drink. You know the story in John chapter 4. After her encounter with Jesus, she was never the same. Neither was her city. Leaving her water pot at the well, she hurried to spread the news to all who would listen, "Come see a Man." The power of one woman's story changed the whole city.

It is the same invitation given to each of us. When a woman or man accepts this invitation, it is not an end, it is a new beginning. It is their entrance into a new way of life. As a Local Fellowship leader, it is your goal to expand the vision beyond your home and personal needs. Encourage those around you to see current world events from a Biblical perspective. Encourage them to grow in their relationship with the Lord. And encourage them to begin a life that extends an invitation to others to 'Come see a Man.'

Our international president, Jane Hansen Hoyt has said:

We are about bringing the Kingdom into each community because that is the heart of God. The Word says, 'I am bringing you out (of a kingdom of darkness) that I might bring you in (to the Kingdom of Light).' I am bringing you out of something to bring you into something.

Prayer, passion, and preparation create an atmosphere in each local or Candlelight group where the Presence of God dwells and women and men are ignited to change the world.

We want to see each person's life radically changed by them personally knowing and walking in relationship with God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. We will do this by:

- ...mobilizing those in our communities into a company of warriors, champions, and leaders of global significance.
- ...seeing the fullness of Christ on display in our communities.
- ...empowering people to develop resources that enable them to take advantage of all that God is releasing from Heaven.
- ...bringing opportunities for those in our community to upgrade so they become Kingdom bringers and image bearers of God.
- ...seeing apostolic teams formed that demonstrate the power of Heaven in the darkest, most hopeless places in our cities and towns.
- ...developing people so that they move in the strength of all that Jesus provided through His death, burial, and resurrection.

If you, as the leader of a Local Aglow Fellowship, become narrow in your vision and you see that the call for your fellowship is only to minister to 'a person' or 'to needs', and you do not give the greater vision, then you will be falling short of your mission in your community.

So, this is your call as a Local Fellowship leader:

- *Capture the heart of what Aglow is about in this end time hour*
- *Bring that greater vision to the people of the Local Aglow Fellowship.*

Jane Hansen Hoyt

Yes, God's hand is upon YOU as a Local Aglow Fellowship or Candlelight leader! He has chosen YOU for this end time ministry. He has chosen the very town you live in. Acts 17:26, *"From one man He made every nation of men that they should inhabit the whole earth; and He determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live."* Just as one woman touched by Jesus transformed her community, so can you. He believes in you and so do we!

THE PUBLIC AGLOW MEETING

Although the *personality* of each Local Aglow Fellowship or Candlelight Group differs, the foundation on which it is built is the same.

Every local fellowship or Candlelight Group is led by qualified leaders who:

- Seek God's heart for the community.
- Are aligned with Aglow's purpose, vision, and mission.
- Attend Area or National Leadership Training events and strive to attend Global and Regional events when possible.
- Share the vision and purpose of Aglow on a regular basis.
- The Local Aglow Executive Board is trans-denominational.

Every Local Aglow Executive Board or Candlelight Group receives oversight and direction from the Area or National Aglow leadership for your nation.

Each local fellowship or Candlelight Group provides a safe place for women and men, to:

- Find salvation.
- Renew relationships with the Lord.
- Receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit.
- Become aware of the vision, mission, mandates, and Kingdom purposes of Aglow.

Following is a recap of the various expressions of Aglow:

THE LOCAL AGLOW FELLOWSHIP

Local groups have long been the heart and soul of the ministry. These groups have a heart for their community and find ways to bring the radiant love of God to all they touch. Aglow women and men reach into their communities to feed the homeless, minister in jails and prisons, share Bible studies, work with orphans, reach out to juvenile facilities, nursing homes, hospitals, etc. They have outreaches in the parks to reach families. The possibilities are endless.

A Local Aglow Fellowship plans a public gathering that meets regularly for refreshing, relationship building, networking, and community outreach. The main focus of the Local Aglow board members in a fellowship outreach meeting is to prepare a place for the Presence of God that will impact all who attend and shift the atmosphere in their community. Your goal is to establish a Kingdom Community that demonstrates the fullness of Heaven on earth.

The Executive Board consists of three to five team members who meet regularly to pray, seek the heart of God for their community and plan outreach meetings. The style and flavor of a local fellowship emerges as the executive board brings personal expression to the meeting and seeks God's strategy on how to implement His plans. As the board embraces the vision and mission of Aglow, the goal is that the community is blessed, impacted by His Presence, and transformed by His love.

AGLOW CANDLELIGHT GROUP

The Aglow Candlelight Group program helps establish Aglow in places where adequate leadership for an Aglow fellowship is not yet available. Contact the Aglow leadership for your nation for more information. These leaders will guide you in the process of forming an Aglow Candlelight committee of 2 -3 leaders and provide you with direction and encouragement.

AGLOW FOR MEN, AGLOW FOR COUPLES, AGLOW GENERATIONS GROUPS

AGLOW MEN OF ISSACHAR

As of early 2015, the Men's Groups became known as the Aglow Men of Issachar. The Men of Issachar understand the times in which they are living. God is seeking true worshippers and seekers of His heart. God is raising up a new army of priests, prophets, and kings.

Men of Issachar Groups are led by men, for men and usually have between 3-5 leaders. Men are drawn to the move of God taking place at Aglow Meetings and they want the same experiences. In Aglow the men's groups and the women's group, will function under the guidelines in this handbook.

AGLOW FOR COUPLES

Couples Groups -- Led by 3-5 couples. In Couples Aglow, both the husband and wife serve in the same position (Husband and wife serve together as president, as secretary, etc.).

AGLOW GENERATIONS GROUPS

Generations Groups reach out to the younger generations. The mission of an Aglow Generations group is to see young people form community groups, where they first can grow in their relationship with God and one another. As they grow in their gifting, they will use their creativity to touch their community with the Kingdom, bringing light to the darkness. Contact your national leadership for guidance in forming a Generations Group. More information about [Generations Groups](#) can be found in *Establishing Aglow in Your Community* in Part 1, Section 2, of this Handbook or on the Aglow website at aglowgenerations.org. There you will find how to contact the Generations Director at Aglow headquarters and learn more about this growing expression of Aglow.

HOW DOES AGLOW AFFECT THE LOCAL CHURCH?

Aglow recognizes The Body of Christ worldwide as the Church in all of its expressions whether it is denominationally, organizationally, through underground, cell groups or prison chapels, etc. We (Aglow) see ourselves in cooperation to further the purposes of God to extend his Kingdom. Having the same vision as the local church, to raise up warriors and champions and global leaders of significance, members of Aglow are encouraged to attend the church of their choice and to help new converts locate a Christian congregation where they can have regular fellowship and teaching. In nations where Christianity is suppressed, an Aglow group might be the only expression of church available for believers.

Aglow Boards are encouraged to choose officers from *different* churches when there is a variety of churches in a community from which to choose. In small communities this might not be a possibility. Aglow encourages a variety of church affiliations so that the ministry is not connected to any particular church. Doctrinal differences and practices within churches should not be an issue in Aglow as all Aglow leaders must adhere to a Statement of Beliefs that are basic Biblical beliefs for all believers.

Each Aglow group will choose advisors who often are pastors and laymen from various churches. This enables Aglow to bring together people from different backgrounds for the sole purpose of fulfilling the Father's will on the earth.

HOW TO BECOME AN AFFILIATED LOCAL AGLOW FELLOWSHIP

We are excited that you are interested in beginning a Local Aglow Fellowship in your city or community in whatever expression that takes.

NOTE: The official name for Aglow is *Aglow International*. Correct terms to use are: Aglow International (nation), and Aglow International in (City)

- The *first step* is to contact the Aglow leadership in your area or nation or to write or call the Aglow International Global Field Offices. Once you have made this contact, it is important you be in regular communication with the Aglow leadership who are there to guide and encourage you in the process.

Global Field Office – International
Aglow International
P.O. Box 1749
Edmonds, WA 98020-1749, USA

Phone: (425) 775-7282
Fax: (425) 778-9615
E-mail: intl.fieldoffice@aglow.org

- The next step is to meet together with other interested men/women and pray together for God's will and timing. This group, feeling called by God to begin an Aglow Fellowship in your community, should corporately seek God for His plan and vision for reaching women or men.
- It is important to ask for godly wisdom as to how God would have you introduce Aglow to your community (including its churches).
- Next, prayerfully choose officers to form the executive board for your Aglow following the [guidelines](#) explained in this handbook (See section 3.) You will need three to five officers from at least two different churches. Each of these officers must meet the qualifications listed, including being baptized in the Spirit and speaking in tongues.
- Select a location and time for monthly public meetings to be held. We recommend that this place be a public meeting room so that all will feel comfortable in attending. However, in certain places, Aglow meetings may need to be held in homes, churches, or in the open air. Since you may want to publicize your gatherings (with flyers, in newspapers, on radio, by email, Facebook etc.) and help people remember, it is best to keep the time and place the same from month to month.
- Choose advisors (two or three Spirit-filled Christian pastors or laymen) according to the [guidelines](#) in this handbook Section 4A. The advisors may be women or men. While these advisors do not lead or make decisions for the group, their support is strength for your Aglow Fellowship.
- Fill out the necessary [Application for Affiliation](#) with advisors signature, and [the Leadership Questionnaire](#) forms found in this section. Submit these forms to the Aglow leadership for your nation.

- Once your paperwork is completed and approved, your Aglow will become affiliated, that is, recognized in the official count of Aglow Fellowships worldwide.
- It is important that an Aglow group be affiliated within one year of the time they begin to hold public meetings. If you have difficulties meeting this time frame, please seek your leadership's guidance as to what you might do.

If you are not able to form a full local Aglow Fellowship or begin with a public Aglow meeting of the type explained above at the present time, we encourage you to continue to meet with others who are interested, perhaps as a Bible study or prayer group.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Aglow Vision and Mission Statements as well as the mandates provide an excellent springboard to reach into the community. An inviting and fun atmosphere provides a safe place for both Christian and non-Christian women and men to gather. You are intimately involved in mobilizing God's plan upon the earth. Just one encounter with God can totally transform a person's world!

Outreach in a Local Aglow Fellowship has a two-fold purpose:

1. Gathering people in
2. Reaching out to people

IDEAS FOR THE MONTHLY FELLOWSHIP MEETING:

- The Executive Board is responsible for sharing the vision and mission of Aglow.
- Invite a speaker who would give a short teaching or testimony and have a time of prayer for those who need to be saved, filled with the Holy Spirit, delivered, or healed.
- A time of praise and worship (See "[The Value of Praise and Worship](#)" Part 2, Section 6)
- Receive an offering (to provide money for your regular expenses, including a love gift for the speaker)
- Present an invitation to become an Aglow member (if membership is offered in your nation. If membership is not offered in your nation, then present an opportunity to become a Covenant Partner with the Global Headquarters office.)
- Show DVDs from an Aglow conference to your neighbors or to a church.
- Be current and relevant in all you present, remembering to have a time to pray the headlines of the daily newspaper or periodicals – this brings in a global perspective from a Biblical view point.
- Have weekly or monthly prayer for the government leaders in your community or the school board – and let them know you are praying by asking them for a list of prayer needs.

Be creative. Assess the needs of the community and ask the Lord for strategy to meet those needs. Jesus was compelled to go to Samaria where a divine encounter with one woman changed her life and impacted an entire town. In the same way, people are waiting for us to reach out to them. The Holy Spirit knows the exact plan that will draw those who are in need. Wait on Him to hear His plan.

IDEAS FOR REACHING OUT TO THE COMMUNITY:

- Host a one day seminar for women or men on one of the mandates.
- Meet on a college campus and provide mentoring or Bible study for young women or men.
- Host a night of praise and worship by inviting groups and individuals from different backgrounds and denominations, providing an opportunity for ministry.
- Have a young women's or men's evening in your home.
- Men and women taking the gospel into a local jail or prison.
- Plan an evangelistic meeting in the park appealing to the family.
- Provide a Bible study for young moms or shut-ins.
- Gather and deliver supplies to the homeless.
- Bring a time of worship or Bible study into a nursing home.
- Meet in a coffee shop for fellowship and fun.
- Contact the local Aglow prison ministry and find out those who are in prison who need an encouraging card or letter.
- Visit those who are shut in and bring a small gift.

And the list goes on! Pray and see where the Holy Spirit will lead you in your town or city. He has you there for a reason and waits for you to awaken to that specific purpose. An apostolic anointing rests upon your board and you have the authority to affect your community. Expect to make a difference as your board walks in the confidence and surety that comes with knowing who you are in Christ.

WHAT IF OTHERS WANT TO START AN AGLOW FELLOWSHIP IN THEIR TOWN?

We encourage Aglow groups to begin in every village, town or city so that the truth of the Kingdom is available to all people. There may also be more than one Aglow within a city if the need arises. Aglow's slogan is "Every nation touched. Every heart changed."

- If you hear of someone interested in starting an Aglow in another area, you may encourage them to get a group together for prayer and seek the Lord about how He would open up this ministry.
- The next thing they should do is contact the Aglow leadership for their nation or the Aglow Global Headquarters. (See Aglow's website at www.aglow.org for a list of nations and national leaders.)

AGLOW CANDLELIGHT GROUPS

An Aglow Candlelight Group is designed to provide a small, or remote, group of women or men an opportunity to be linked to Aglow International.

- The ministry to individuals that takes place in a local community is the heart of Aglow.
- The light from that ministry can shine forth in different ways, as rays of light from a candle.
- All the “candles” of ministry throughout the world are sparks of Aglow that together can set the whole world on fire for Jesus!

AIMS OF AN AGLOW CANDLELIGHT GROUP

- To train up warriors and champions for the Lord.
- To reach out to those who do not know Jesus as their personal Savior and to see them restored to a radiant place of relationship with God and others.
- To draw people together for fellowship, teaching, prayer and Christian growth.
- To see relationships restored, and individuals reconciled to God and each other.
- To provide a light in a community that draws the lost, breaks oppression, and brings freedom.
- To provide a link in an international network of caring Christians who are united to see the purposes of Heaven done on earth.

THREE TYPES OF AGLOW CANDLELIGHT GROUPS

HOME GROUP

This is usually a small group of women or men who have regular (usually monthly) Aglow meetings in a home. These meetings can include a time of praise and worship, a time when someone shares a teaching from the Bible or a testimony, and a time of prayer and personal ministry. Members should be encouraged to bring friends who need to receive Jesus, or those who need prayer.

PRAYER GROUP

A prayer group is made up of individuals who each feel a distinct call to prayer and intercession, and are willing to commit to meeting together regularly for this purpose, to pray for the needs of the people locally and globally. Each group should be small enough to allow for a feeling of unity.

A strong prayer focus would be important for this group. Some of the things they might pray for are:

- Souls. Make a list of individuals who need to receive Jesus. Pray specifically for each individual. Also pray for souls in the area to be drawn to Jesus. (1 Timothy 2:4)
- Government officials, city officials, schools, and political leaders. Pray that they make righteous decisions so your nation/city can prosper. (1 Timothy 2:1, 2)
- Issues that are contrary to the Word of God. i.e. abortion, graft and corruption, infidelity, witchcraft, laws that destroy the family, etc. Pray that the truth will be revealed and the hearts of men will be changed. (2 Chronicles 7:14)
- Principalities and powers over the region. Pray that these be brought down, and that the people are released to hear the Gospel. (Ephesians 6:10-18)
- Social injustice. Pray for homeless children, AIDS victims, or those discriminated against. (Deuteronomy 10: 17-19)

- Pray for the ministry of Aglow in your area and worldwide, and for Aglow leaders in your nation. (James 5:16, Ephesians 6:19)
- Identifying the enemy and praying specifically is very effective. (Matthew 6:7-13)

BIBLE STUDY

Individuals meeting together for Bible study can meet in a home or any other available meeting place that will accommodate the size of the group. Only Aglow Bible studies should be used. The committee should decide which Aglow Bible study they want to use.

Contact the leader to whom you relate for a complete list of Aglow Bible Studies available in your language. Bible studies on a wide variety of subjects are available as free down loads on the Aglow website (www.aglow.org). Short studies that can be used are materials developed for leadership development. These can be found on the Aglow web site at www.aglow.org click on Resources, Free Resources, then Bible Studies.

IDEAS FOR OUTREACH

Each of the above types of Candlelight Groups could have an outreach from their group. Pray and ask God for His creative ideas to reach out in a community ministry. Please note that some ideas may be more conducive to women's groups, and some are better suited for men's groups following the guideline that in one-on-one ministry, women should minister to women, and men to men. It is acceptable for a group of men to do home improvement projects for a widow or elderly woman. Some suggestions include:

- Friendship Evangelism Reach out to your neighbors with prayer, acts of practical service, and acts of love and kindness. Everyone needs prayer and a friend. Building a relationship often provides an opportunity to share Jesus with them.
- "Adopt a Ward" - You might provide sheets and towels, or clean and paint the rooms at a nearby hospital. You might bring personal care packets to the patients. While you are there, tell them about Jesus, and pray with them for their personal concerns.
- Visit patients in hospitals or inmates in prison and bring food. This will open hearts to the gospel. Always keep in mind that your focus is to win an opportunity to share Jesus with those you help.
- Clean up the Neighborhood - In one nation, Aglow women groups took brooms and cleaning supplies and volunteered to clean the stalls in the market. Surprised vendors listened as they spoke about Jesus to them.
- Help the Hopeless - How about helping a parent dying of AIDS, or "street children," or the elderly person who can no longer walk to the market, or the Hindu or Muslim who lives down the street? Reaching out to the disadvantaged, discouraged, and hopeless with prayer and acts of love and kindness will change not only their lives, but yours.
- Ministry to widows/widowers and the elderly with practical service projects such as doing repair work in their homes, painting, yard work, or heavy lifting that they are no longer able to do.
- Specific Skills or Talents – Use the specific talents or skills within the group to bless the community. Hairdressers could offer free haircuts, mechanics could offer free oil changes, etc.

- Plant a Community Garden – Secure a piece of land. Provide seeds and set up a rotation of those who will care for the garden. When harvest time comes, reach out to the community by giving away the harvest to those in need.

No matter what kind of Candlelight Groups you have, Bible study, home group, or prayer group, you might want to consider occasionally having a public meeting to which you could invite other people outside of the group. Also, you might think of having a combination group such as a Bible study/prayer group. “Be creative.”

HOW TO AFFILIATE AS AN AGLOW CANDLELIGHT GROUP

First contact the Aglow leadership in your area or nation, or the Aglow International Global Field Offices. Next, choose two or three members to serve on a committee that will oversee the group's activities.

- One serves as a key leader, with one or two helpers.
- Because one of the ways God is using the Aglow ministry is to introduce people to the person of the Holy Spirit and His power, it is important that at least two of the committee members (the key leader and at least one other) are filled with the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues.
- Each committee member does whatever responsibilities are decided upon as they work together.
- Complete The Aglow Candlelight Leadership Form
- **Each member of the committee should carefully read the leadership form before answering the questions.**
- **One pastor or Christian layman must agree to serve as advisor and they must be filled with the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues. It is important to choose an advisor you trust who will be sensitive to the needs of your Candlelight Group.**
- **When both sides of the form are completed, it should be returned to the Aglow leader who gave it to you.**
- What Is The Role Of An Aglow Candlelight Advisor?
- Each man or woman serving as an Aglow advisor should provide perspective and advice on questions the committee may have on things such as doctrinal issues, or difficult problems in the group or on the committee.
- They appreciate that the committee looks to them to advise, not lead, their Candlelight Group. Their willingness to offer insights will be a valuable strength to Aglow.
- They appreciate that Aglow is interdenominational and is not interested in promoting denominational issues.
- They may serve as advisor to more than one Candlelight Group, if necessary.
- They can be called upon to counsel those referred by the committee (s).
- They review and sign the Aglow Candlelight leadership form (s).

HOW TO PROCEED AS AN AGLOW CANDLELIGHT GROUP

As a committee, you should pray together asking God for guidance and wisdom as you lead your Aglow Candlelight Group.

Begin by following the plans and goals you wrote on your leadership form. If you feel God wants you to change your plans and goals, tell the Aglow leader for your nation about this.

WHO DOES THE CANDLELIGHT GROUP RELATE TO FOR LEADERSHIP?

If your country has a national Aglow leader, you should communicate with them.

If your country does not have a national Aglow leader, you should write directly to the Global Field Office - International at:

Global Field Office – International
Aglow International
P.O. Box 1749
Edmonds, WA 98020-1749, USA

Fax: 425-778-9615
Email: intl.fieldoffice@aglow.org.

It is very important that you maintain communication with someone in Aglow, updating them in a timely manner of your activities, successes and any problems you may be experiencing. This gives you prayer support and a mature, understanding friend to walk through the joys and struggles of leadership with you.

HOW DOES THE CANDLELIGHT GROUP HANDLE ITS FINANCES?

The Candlelight Group will need to have available enough money to cover coffee and tea or travel expenses for a speaker. However, if you are saving for an outreach, for example, you might need to have a more significant amount of money on hand from offerings, love gifts, etc. We recommend you talk with your Aglow national leaders about holding your funds in their treasury if you have \$100.00US or more, so the funds are in a secure place.

GROWING INTO AN AGLOW FELLOWSHIP

If your Candlelight Group grows and has more than three leaders, they may affiliate as an Aglow Fellowship. The national leader to whom you relate can help you with this process.

Aglow Fellowships meet on a monthly basis, and are directed by a five-member executive board, with three advisors, such as pastors, or Christian leaders in a community.

MEMBERSHIP IN AGLOW INTERNATIONAL

Members of an affiliated Candlelight Group are also members of the worldwide ministry of Aglow International, although membership fees are not collected by Candlelight Groups.

If your group expands to become an Aglow Fellowship, your national leadership will tell you about Aglow membership in your nation.

NOTE: If membership to any organization is not allowed in your nation, you may disregard this section.

AGLOW GENERATIONS

Gather, Grow, Go



HOW TO GET INVOLVED: GUIDELINES FOR AGLOW GENERATIONS

Aglow Generations is an integral part of Aglow International and the focus is for the younger generation of ages thirties and under. Our heart is for the young generation to be raised up in Aglow, and be part of the mobilizing millions around the world into champions in the Kingdom. Aglow has done this for 50 years with prayer, evangelism and relationship as the foundation of the ministry.

We need the wisdom of the older and the zeal of the younger.

Jane Hansen Hoyt shares, *if I could pick one thread that runs through Aglow, I would say that it is relationship. You can walk into an Aglow anywhere in the world and you will feel instantly “at home.”* There is a place for the young generation in the Aglow ministry. We welcome you to the Aglow ministry and are excited for you to be part of the family! The following guidelines list the ways you can become involved in Aglow and then focus on how to start a Generations Group.

Young people, you are invited to become part of an Aglow local fellowship, be trained in leadership skills or form an Aglow Generations group. The identity and mission of our Generations shared below.

AGLOW GENERATIONS GROUP IDENTITY, PURPOSE & GROUPS

Identity	Mission	Ways to Get Involved	Where do I fit?	Purpose	Structure
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AGLOW GENERATIONS IDENTITY STATEMENT

Ephesians 3:17-19 *that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height— to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.*

Aglow Generations is young people walking in the fullness of God’s great love. Groups providing a place for young people to gather and build relationships, grow in their faith, and use their gifts to go impact the world. We are encouraged, mentored and released by the generation before us to walk in all God intended for us. We are the young generation in Aglow of champions and global leaders that carry the Kingdom of Heaven to earth.

AGLOW GENERATIONS MISSION

- » Training young people to be leaders of significance with a global worldview.
- » Equipping powerful Kingdom Communities where young people grow in their identity and walk in the fullness of Christ.
- » Empowering people to develop resources that enable them to receive all that God has for them.
- » Developing apostolic teams that demonstrate the power of Heaven, using our gifts and talents to reach our community and the lost.
- » Growing in the Presence of God that creates the same atmosphere on earth as it is in Heaven.
- » To develop relationships with those established in Aglow, Generations walking together as an integral part of Aglow International.

Seek the Lord for the assignments He has for you in your group. Aglow is Apostolic. We are “sent ones” that demonstrate the power of Heaven in our communities.

WAYS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO BE INVOLVED IN AGLOW

- » Start a Generations Group or be active in an existing Generations Group
- » Attend and Participate in a local Aglow Fellowship
- » Be trained and mentored in leadership by Aglow leaders
- » Attend Aglow’s Annual Conference and be part of the Generations meeting
- » Join young people on the Aglow Israel Trip or a Transformation Trip
- » Global Prayer Calls- participating with hundreds worldwide to pray for current events
- » Follow our Facebook page and website for current events, photos, videos and testimonies: www.facebook.com/aglowgenerations and www.generationsproject.net
- » Be connected to Aglow’s Global family and receive e-mail updates of what God is doing around the world and in Aglow Generations.
- » Any young people involved or participating in your Generations groups or local fellowships, please submit the following to the Generations Director at Aglow Headquarters: generations@aglow.org

Name	Age	Country	Email address
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- » You will be encouraged to see what God is doing in young people all around the globe, notified of events/trips you can participate in, and can hear and share testimonies about what God is doing in young lives.

**Contact information is only for Aglow’s database. It will not be shared anywhere else.*

Where do I fit in Aglow Generations?

A. If I am a young adult and want to participate in a Local Fellowship I can...

- » attend the monthly meeting
- » actively be part of the monthly meeting and help out as needed
- » grow in faith as I participate in the multi-generational Aglow meeting

B. If I am a young adult and want to develop leadership gifting in a local fellowship I can...

- » attend any leadership training sessions I am invited to attend
- » ask to be mentored by an Aglow leader
- » grow in my leadership gifts as I serve in different capacities in the Aglow meeting

C. I can be an Aglow Generations Leader serving on a Local Fellowship or National Board

- » I can be invited to serve on a local Aglow board as my leadership gifts grow and are recognized by those around me
- » As God leads, in time I could be asked to serve as a Generations National Coordinator on the National team

D. I can begin an Aglow Generations Group for young adults

- » If I have a heart to start a Group I can meet with other potential leaders and start communications with the National board in my nation.
- » If I have the blessing from the National board I can begin meeting with people interested in being part of the group.
- » Follow the directions under the Generations Affiliation and Leadership Questionnaire Forms section

E. I have a heart for kids or teens or I am a teen and want to start a Generations Group for kids or teens

- » I can connect and relate with a Local and National Board and with approval from them can begin a group
- » One to three adults can lead the group or a mature teen can lead a teen group
- » Follow the directions under the Generations Affiliation and Leadership Questionnaire Forms section

AGLOW GENERATIONS GROUP PURPOSE

GATHER to build relationships and fellowship together.

Hebrews 10:24-25 *And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.*

GROW in the knowledge of God’s word, truth and love.

Luke 8:15 *But the seed in the good soil, these are the ones who have heard the word in an honest and good heart, and hold it fast, and bear fruit with perseverance.*

GO into our communities and world with the Good news.

Matthew 10:7-8 *"And as you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' "Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. Freely you received, freely give.*

STRUCTURE OF A GENERATIONS GROUP

- » Weekly, biweekly, monthly, or bi-monthly meetings can be held to fulfil the general objectives of the Generations Groups.
- » These meetings can take place in a variety of places, based upon the goal of your group. For example; if your stated goal is “We would like to reach College Students,” the best place in that case would be to meet on campus somewhere.
- » These meetings can be creative gatherings. They do not have to be like a church service. We want people to be introduced to Christ through friendship, and for young people to have solid relationships with other Christians. Teaching or an evangelistic bible study are options but ask the Lord for vision, direction, and creativity for how to gather together and reach others.

GROUP AGES AND TYPES

Age Groups:	Group Types:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">» Kids 5-12» Teens 13-17» College 18-25	<ul style="list-style-type: none">» Young Adults 20s-30s» Young Moms» Young Couples	<ul style="list-style-type: none">» Young Professionals 20s-30s

Group Ideas:

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| » Bible Study | » Dance Group |
| » Prayer Group | » Worship/Music Group |
| » Home/Fellowship Group | » Writing Group |
| » College Campus Group | » Art Group |
| » Parenting Group | » Evangelistic Bible Study at University |
| » Community Service Projects | » Coffee Shop Discussions |
| » Social Issues | » Neighbourhood Evangelism |
| » Creative Arts Group | » Outreach to International Students |
| » Mentorship Group | » Help Needy Families in an Area |

**Be creative, look for opportunities to reach out
in the love of Jesus to those around you.**

CURRENT GROUPS THAT ARE MEETING IN THE NATIONS:

- » Fellowship for Moms that have kids with autism.
- » Young moms meeting at apartment complex for fellowship and prayer, reaches unsaved moms.
- » Creative arts groups- sharing the arts, poetry, and song
- » Knitting Club and talk about faith
- » Grandparent/grandkid group- Bible study and fellowship
- » Young men's meeting with speakers and encouragement
- » Singing group and hosting radio program
- » Game Changers processing groups
- » Aglow woman mentoring young adults

Where there is no vision,
the people perish.
Prov. 29:18

HOW TO START A GENERATIONS GROUP IN YOUR COMMUNITY

When there is interest in starting a Generations Group in your community; communicate with a Local Fellowship or National Board. All Generations Groups are approved by the National Board. If you do not have contacts for your Aglow National leaders, send a request to generations@aglow.org and you will be put in contact with a leader in your nation. If you have any questions, please contact Aglow International by phone 425-775-7282 or e-mail. The leaders will then start meeting together and pray, seeking God for a vision for your group, your focus, when to start and where. You can also start meeting with other young people interested in being part of the group and see what interests they have for the focus of the group.

- » A Generations Group is made up of women and/or men, in their thirties or under: children, teens, college students, or young adults.
- » Generations Groups start with a leader and/or one to two co-leaders. (You can also have a larger leadership team with more co-leaders if desired)
- » Because one of the ways God has always used the Aglow ministry is to introduce women and men to the person of the Holy Spirit and His power, it is important that the leaders are filled with the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues.
- » The responsibilities of the group should be equally divided between each leader.
- » The leaders of a Generations Group can vary in age. (Ex: A teen can lead a group for teens. An older woman/or man can lead a Generations Group. A Kids Group needs at least one adult leader.)
- » A Generations Group needs one advisor, a male or female pastor, or Christian layman/woman. (You can ask your National board or local fellowship if you can use their same advisor.)
- » Empower members to be active in your group as they start regularly attending.

COMPLETE GENERATIONS AFFILIATION AND LEADERSHIP QUESTIONNAIRE FORMS

- » Each Group must fill out an Affiliation Form and each leader the leadership questionnaire. The forms are given to the National Board and the group is approved by the National Board. The Affiliation forms and Leadership Questionnaires are then sent to the Aglow Headquarters and the group is officially affiliated.
- » The Leadership team needs to become members of Aglow International in their nation in the form of Global Partnership.
- » What is a Global Partner? An Aglow Global Partner is a person whose heart has been touched with the vision, and purposes on God's heart that are to be accomplished by Aglow International. Global Partnership represents a commitment to the call God has placed on your life to be a part of the work of Aglow.
- » For more on membership see Part 2, Section 7 of this Handbook.
- » Because of the day we live in, we believe it is our responsibility in caring for children and teens to seek adult leaders or workers who will provide healthy, safe, and nurturing relationships. Adults who have been convicted of either child sexual or physical abuse must not be allowed to volunteer in any Aglow sponsored activity or program for children or teens. Adult volunteers should make sure that they are never alone with a single child or teen, another adult or child must be present. This is a protection for you.
- » It is important that you unite with other Aglow groups that are in the area. Participate in local, national and regional gatherings.

HOW DOES AN AGLOW GENERATIONS GROUP HANDLE ITS FINANCES?

If you open a bank account; you will be responsible to provide a financial statement each year to your Aglow National Leadership.

For Generations groups outside the U.S., please send your tithes to the next level of leadership in your nation, to help further the work of the ministry in your nation.

WHO DOES THE GENERATIONS GROUP RELATE TO FOR LEADERSHIP?

Generations Groups relate to and are accountable to their National Board, National Generations Coordinator (if their country has one) and the Aglow Headquarters Generations Director.

It is very important that you maintain communication with your National Generations Coordinator, National Leadership, and the Generations Director at headquarters, updating them in a timely manner of your activities, successes and any problems you may be experiencing. These relationships will bring you prayer support, mentorship, accountability, and friendships to walk with you through the journey of this leadership position.

If the Generations leaders feel they can no longer lead their group and there are no other people who want to take on the leadership positions, then you need to communicate with their National Board and the Aglow headquarters Generations Director that the Generations Group is closed. Our hope is that Generation Groups will grow and keep going even when leadership changes. Leaders, look to raise up other leaders in your group that could carry the vision forward.

If your country does not have a national Aglow leader, you should contact Global Field Office - International directly with any needs or questions. You always have an open door of communication with the Aglow Headquarters Generations Director: generations@aglow.org.

Attn: Generations Director

Aglow International

P.O. Box 1749

Edmonds, WA 98020-1749, USA

Phone: 425.775.7282

Email: intl.fieldoffice@aglow.org or generations@aglow.org

We warmly welcome you into the family of Aglow!

HOW TO START: GUIDELINES FOR NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEADERS

Our heart is to see women and men of all ages participate in the ministry of Aglow. You are raising up leaders and moving the ministry forward in your nations. Great treasure you have to hand to the next generation.

In the “How to Start” Generations guidelines we share ideas for how you can involve young people in the Aglow ministry. The “How To Get Involved” guidelines are designed for you to copy and give to young people that are interested in getting involved in Aglow and people of all ages interested in starting a new Generation Group.

Aglow is mobilizing millions around the world into a company of warriors, champions, and global leaders of significance.

AGLOW GENERATIONS IS...

Aglow Generations is an integral part of Aglow International with a focus on raising the next generation. In Generations, we want to bring forth fresh, new growth in the fertile spiritual ground that has been tilled in Aglow International for 50 years. In each nation powerful Kingdom communities are being founded on the fullness of Christ where people of all ages are empowered to know who they are in Christ and make Him known in their communities, bringing the Kingdom of Heaven to earth.

One generation shall praise your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts.
Psalm 145:4

The heart of Aglow Generations is young people being active and empowered in the Aglow ministry. **We need the wisdom of the older and the zeal of the younger.** Jane Hansen Hoyt shares, *if I could pick one thread that runs through Aglow, I would say that it is relationship. You can walk into an Aglow anywhere in the world and you will feel instantly “at home.”* There is a place for all generations in Aglow!

WAYS YOU CAN INVOLVE YOUNG PEOPLE IN AGLOW:

- » Invite them to attend and participate in a local fellowship, event or outreach
- » Have an open and welcoming heart for younger generations.
- » Give local meetings and events a multi-generational appeal and involvement
- » Start a mentoring and/or GameChangers Processing Group
- » Support those interested to start a Generations Group
- » Encourage young adults to be active in an existing Generations Group
- » Invite a young adult to serve on an Aglow Local Fellowship or National Board when you recognize a leadership gift in them.
- » **Note to National Leaders:** When Aglow Generations Groups grows sufficiently in your nation, you may want to appoint a Generations National Coordinator to your Board. They would need to meet the qualifications of the National board members.
- » Encourage local fellowships to have outreach/activity for kids and teens
- » Support young people to attend Aglow’s Global Conference & the Generations meeting
- » Invite young people on the Aglow Israel Trip or a Transformation Trip
- » Give young people information to participate in Global Prayer Calls with hundreds worldwide

- » Collect contact information for young adults and teens involved in Aglow in your nation and send to Aglow headquarters. The young people will receive updates of what God is doing around the world in Aglow and Aglow Generations. They can also like our Facebook page and visit our website with updated events and testimonies: www.facebook.com/aglowgenerations and www.aglowgenerations.org
- » Send contact info to Aglow headquarters, Generations Director: generations@aglow.org

Name	Age	Country	Email address
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*This information is only for Aglow’s database and will not be shared anywhere else.

Types of Involvement in Aglow Generations			
A. Young people participating in the Local Fellowship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Ages: teens-30s Attend and Participate in Meetings » Multi-Generational Meetings 	B. Generations Leader Serving on a Local Fellowship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Ages 18-30s » A young adult can be invited to serve as a leader on a Local Board 	C. Aglow Generations Groups for Young Adults <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Ages 18-30s » Affiliated Generations Groups 	D. Aglow Generations Groups for Kids and Teens <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Ages 5-11 Kid’s Groups and 12-17 Teen’s Groups » Outreach of Local Fellowship & Affiliated Groups

A. Young People Participating in Local Fellowships

We encourage the Aglow local fellowship groups to have a mixture of ages involved. God designed for the generations to be together, blessing and encouraging one another.

We encourage leaders to:

- » Invite young adults to: lead worship, do announcements, lead prayer, or testify. Allow young people to use & develop their gifts in your meetings.
- » Make meetings relevant to multiple generations. Invite speakers of different ages.
- » Have creative activities that allow the different ages to work together.
- » Invite young people who want to grow spiritually, need a mentor or a place to belong.

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.
Proverbs 22:6

B. Generations Leader Serving On A Local Board

The Local Fellowship Board can appoint a young person to serve as a leader on their board. To do so, the Leadership Team would need to send in a Change of Information Form for the Generations leader and have them fill out a Leadership Questionnaire.

The value of this is to:

- » Bring a young perspective and voice onto a Local Fellowship Board
- » Train the young person to serve the local group and be an active leader
- » Bring creativity to multiple generations participating in the Local Fellowship
- » Help draw young people to be active in local groups
- » Encourage the young people to develop their gifts.
- » Connect and communicate with National Generations Coordinator (if their county has someone serving in this position) and Aglow's Generations Director at Headquarters.

C. Aglow Generations Groups for Young Adults

A young adult or any age above can start and lead an Aglow Generations Group for young people ages 18-30s.

- » The group has one leader and as many co-leaders as needed.
- » Examples of types of groups: College, Young Adults, Young moms, Young Couples, Young Professionals
- » See the "How to Get Involved: Guidelines for Aglow Generations" section for more types of groups, outreach ideas and how they affiliate.

D. Aglow Generations Groups for Kids and Teens

Aglow groups for Teens or Kids can be organized as an outreach of a Local fellowship.

- » A committed adult (or 2) can organize a monthly meeting for teens or young children as an outreach of the Local fellowship.
- » The adult(s) would serve as the leader of the group and plan teachings and activities focused to the needs of the age group.
- » The adults can involve the teens in various ways to raise them up in leadership skills.
- » A Kids group can serve as “child care with a purpose” during the monthly Aglow fellowship
- » Generations Groups for teens can also affiliate as a separate group.
- » A teen, young adult or older can lead a teen group.
- » They would need to fulfil the qualifications and guidelines for affiliation.
- » See the “How to Get Involved: Guidelines for Aglow Generations” section for more types of groups, outreach ideas and how they affiliate.
- » Leaders would relate to the National Board and the Generations Director at Aglow Headquarters.

THE START OF A GENERATIONS GROUP AND WHO THEY RELATE TO

When there is interest in starting a Generations Group for young adults or teens in your community the intended leaders connect with a Local or National Board. **All Generations Groups and leaders are approved by the National board.** The Local or National Leaders connect and pray with the leaders. The Generations Groups are under the National Leadership and they receive the completed affiliation paperwork and leadership questionnaires for the group. Then all completed affiliation information is sent in to Aglow Headquarters. If a Generations Group is started out of a local fellowship or in the same town of a Local Fellowship, they can relate to each other and the Local Fellowship can be their main connection and accountability.

SECTION 3: WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A LOCAL AGLOW LEADER

It is an exciting time to be an Aglow leader! We are discovering in a fresh way what our true identity in Christ means to us individually, corporately and ultimately to our community. *Christ in us is the hope of glory!* We understand in a greater way that there can no longer be a disparity/difference between Aglow's corporate identity and individual identity. As we grow in our identity, we begin to recognize how we are known in heaven and what we are to become on earth. What God has spoken to us through the scriptures, and prophetic words, has significant meaning in our lives. As we understand that this is how God sees us now, that He has a plan and purpose for our life, we are free to walk in our God given persona.

AGLOW LEADERS KNOW THEIR INDIVIDUAL IDENTITY IS IN CHRIST

As Aglow leaders, we have the opportunity to grow in our *individual* identity in Christ. To learn what our persona is from heaven's perspective and to recognize that eternity is a part of our walk and our identity now.

As Aglow leaders, we are moving from glory to glory. We are learning how to walk in our inheritance. We are asking God what resource He wants to give us, so that we can take our city, region or nation for the Kingdom. Aglow leaders have a different level of expectancy because we know who we are. We understand that when we know our Christ identity there is a promise and provision attached to everything we do for the Kingdom.

When we, as Aglow leaders, grow in our identity in Christ, all the *fruits of the Spirit* (according to Galatians 5:22-23) will be evident. Above all, the greatest gift of these will be *love*.

AGLOW LEADERS KNOW THEIR CORPORATE IDENTITY IS IN CHRIST

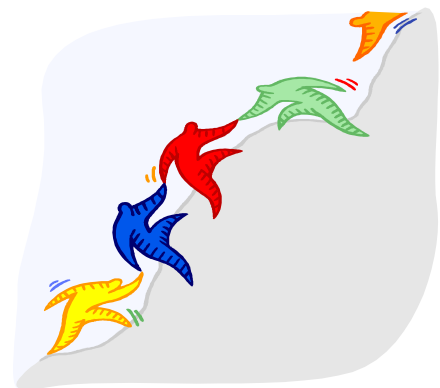
As Aglow leaders, we also walk in a *corporate* identity in Christ. As we have established who we are corporately, we will walk together in a oneness or unity as a team that cannot be broken.

With one heart and one mind, we will accomplish together God's plans and purposes for our local Aglow fellowship and our community.

We will be unstoppable!

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AS A TEAM NEEDS TO KNOW:

- What is the purpose of our local Aglow fellowship?
- Who are we as a local Aglow fellowship?
- What are we here to affect



The primary role of leadership is the development and advancement of those you are leading. You do this by influencing with your testimony of what God is doing for you. People follow what they want to be influenced by. Everyone wants to be loved, to belong, and to be significant. Good leaders create that type of environment. Aglow leaders influence in a way that transforms people's minds and belief systems.

Leaders in Aglow are given opportunities to organize and conduct meetings which contain the manifest presence of God. They are men's teams and women's teams who work together as a team, sharing their testimony of ongoing encounters with God which builds faith and encourages others to grow. Ultimately, Aglow leadership desires to impart the corporate vision and mission of what Aglow is about in this end time hour and to mobilize those in their local fellowship into a company of warriors, champions and leaders of global significance.

Aglow leaders work alongside churches to demonstrate the good news of Jesus Christ to women and men. Moreover, serving in Aglow often develops characteristics in individuals that help them in all areas of life. They develop relationship or interpersonal skills as well as godly inner character. They understand that God has upgrades ready for them receive.

When individuals are called to serve on a local executive board, they are also being called to join with others locally, nationally, and internationally, to fulfill God's plan for Aglow at this particular time. As has been stated, ***there no longer can be a disparity, or difference, between Aglow's corporate identity and individual identity. They must be in agreement.***

BEING AN AGLOW LEADER

THE LOCAL AGLOW LEADERSHIP

The Executive Board leads the local Aglow fellowship and consists of a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Each board member holding one of these positions should feel called and anointed of God for the particular part they are to play in fulfilling God's plan to bring the kingdom to their community.

The executive board sets the direction for Aglow in their community based on the [Aglow Vision and Mission Statements](#) as well as the [mandates](#). In this section of the handbook, we will focus much of our attention on the responsibilities that local executive officers hold in Aglow.

Assisting the executive board are ministry coordinators who are appointed by the executive board to oversee the outreach ministries of the local fellowship. Such as:

- Bible studies
- Prayer groups
- Hospital visitation

Each executive board (both women and men) has 1-3 advisors who give encouragement and support to the ministry. And each individual involved in the local fellowship is significant to carrying out God's purposes for the group.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

The entire executive board prays and works together as a team to fulfill the vision and mission and purpose of the fellowship keeping in mind that Aglow is about:

- Mobilizing warriors, champions, and global leaders.
- Establishing powerful Kingdom Communities founded on the fullness of Christ.
- Empowering people to develop resources that enable them to take advantage of all that God is releasing from Heaven.

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS TOGETHER SHOULD BE WILLING:

1. **To see and carry out** God's purpose and plan for Aglow, internationally and in their particular community, and *to keep* this vision before the Aglow group.
2. **To maintain** the life and growth of the local Aglow fellowship by *focusing* on two goals:
 - bringing Jesus to the non-Christians of the community in a way they can understand
 - bringing the greater vision of Aglow to the people of their Lighthouse as well as other Christians in their community.
3. **To recognize** the needs of the men/women in their community. To have a growing desire to build the members of their Aglow and the people of their community.
4. **To form and maintain** the ministries needed in the Aglow group and to *appoint coordinators* for each ministry such as Bible study and prayer groups, community outreach to prisons and hospital visitation, etc.
5. **To plan and attend** the public meeting where the manifest presence of God will be present.
6. **To hold** two monthly board meetings: one for the executive board members only and one for the complete board, including ministry coordinators.
7. **To take part in making decisions** for the Aglow group concerning goals, activities, speakers, the spending of funds, etc.
8. **To encourage** the development of leadership qualities in each other, in the individuals coordinating the various ministries, and in those attending the lighthouse meetings.
9. **To attend** leadership training seminars each year as they are offered by area or national leadership.
10. **To appoint and work with local advisors**, welcome them and their spouses to attend the fellowship's meetings and retreats and acquaint them with the Aglow ministry.
11. **To stay in communication with the leadership** you relate to (area, national, or international), receiving guidance, support, and vision and sharing what is happening in your Aglow.

In general, as a board member, you have two areas of responsibility: one is to the others on the board and the other is the community you are serving. Everything centers on relationship because this is the very heart of God. Your Aglow group will be strengthened as each of you honor one another, respecting each individual and their unique gifting and encouraging one another continually. Although your positions are all different, they are each crucial to the functioning of your Aglow and to fulfilling God's complete purpose. It is of great importance to God that each of you should at all times see each other as a valuable member of the team.

UNDERSTANDING THE FAVOR AVAILABLE TO YOUR TEAM

As you begin to understand the importance of Aglow's role in your community, what Aglow's presence there represents, and your responsibilities as a leader, you will also begin to understand there is an enemy who comes to stop the work of God. Of course, he will not be successful, but along the way, he will do his best to break relationship, cause disunity, distort communication, and do what he can to close the Local Fellowship. Don't buy into his lies. Be alert! Guard your heart against his attacks. Within you and your fellow leaders is the ability to expose him at every turn.

From years of experience, we have found that one of the biggest hindrances to team unity is focusing on negative behaviors or problems. Everyone is on a journey. Everyone is on a path. Down that path there will be problems bringing provision and battles leading to victories. Rather than focusing on a negative or a problem, look for the positive that is attached to the negative.

Our role as Kingdom leaders is to pick up the positives and use them to overwhelm the negative. Do not give valuable peace and strength to negatives. See the provision that God is providing and come in the opposite spirit. Use your influence as a leader to change the atmosphere. Move your team from a place of doubt to a place of belief. Use prophetic words to challenge situations and problems rather than allowing situations and problems to challenge your prophetic words!

Your team will find that the favor you walk in with the Father will begin to affect others. People follow what they want to be influenced by. Everyone wants to be loved. They want to belong and to be significant. Good leaders, Kingdom leaders, create that kind of environment.

Realize that facing obstacles is a good thing. Obstacles in your community and on your team guarantee power! Sometimes God allows obstacles for you to learn to overcome and go to a new level of faith. Hidden in an obstacle is something good for you! God's promise is that He will turn EVERYTHING that comes against your team or a team member for good. Hidden in an obstacle is something good!

The truth is, your team is going to learn how brilliant you really are in Christ. Your community is depending upon your team finding out walking in this brilliance. They want to be influenced by you. They want to see you enjoying your journey. They want to hear your story of how you faced a situation and found the provision in it. They want you to explore the depths of fullness and the unlimited abundance available to them as they learn to walk in the life of the Spirit. Mindsets must shift. A new language of the Kingdom must be discovered. Your team is in Christ and everything is a possibility.

Each one on your team is a carrier of the Light of the Kingdom. Your community, your town, your village, is waiting for you to switch on the light so that they can see where to go in the trying times that we are living in. They need to know where to find joy, abundance, fullness, strength, peace, goodness, healing, and so forth. When they see your team shining, they will run and not walk so that they might taste and see the goodness of the Lord for themselves.

QUALIFICATIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

YOU ARE QUALIFIED TO SERVE ON THE EXECUTIVE BOARD WHEN YOU:

1. **Are a born-again believer** in the Lord Jesus Christ. Every officer must have received Jesus as Savior through a genuine salvation experience.
2. **Are baptized in the Holy Spirit** and speak in tongues. If someone has not yet received this gift, they should be encouraged to participate in the ministry in other ways.
3. **Have renounced all other gods** and any past involvement in the occult and serve only the one true God.
4. **Are called by God to serve** in a leadership position in Aglow.

Ask those who are interested in being on the board to seek God's leading before accepting a board position. A person who is genuinely called and excited about Aglow will be a committed and effective leader.

5. **Are apostolic in nature.** (see box on [apostolic leadership](#) in Section 1)
 - Able to motivate people to reach a goal
 - Helps move things forward.
 - Stays on the cutting edge
 - Recognizes the challenges of a changing world and changes as necessary
6. **Are in agreement with Aglow's statement** of "[What We Believe](#)" as stated in Part 1, Section 1. These are essential doctrinal truths which are the foundation of Aglow.
7. **Embrace the Aglow vision and mission** and seek ways to see that mission come forth in your community.
8. **Regularly read the Bible**, have a basic knowledge of God's Word, and seek daily fellowship with the Lord. An Aglow leader needs to be in a vital and growing relationship with the Lord in order to hear His direction for the fellowship.
 - Show leadership potential and are willing to learn and grow in teamwork with others. Teamwork and board unity are essential for a strong fellowship.
9. **Are a member of Aglow.** If membership is not offered in your nation, consider becoming an Aglow Covenant Partner by giving \$30 or more annually to the ministry through Aglow Headquarters.
10. **Attend one church regularly.** This needs to be a valid Christian assembly, recognized as such in the community by Christian pastors in the area.
11. **Have the agreement of their spouse**, if married.

AGLOW OFFICERS SERVING IN OTHER MINISTRIES:

Those serving as heads of other ministries or who are heavily involved in other ministries, must understand it is important that they be willing to make their service as an Aglow leader a priority.

The heart of this concern is rooted in the proven experience that an individual with their own ministry or heavily involved in another Christian activity may not have enough time to give themselves fully to serving as an officer in Aglow. A successful team needs each player focused and on task. If Aglow is not a priority, it will be a hardship for everyone on the team.

- Other ministries should not be promoted during Aglow meetings
- Aglow mailing lists or email lists should not be used by another ministry to promote that ministry
- Other Items To Consider:
- A local officer should not serve on more than one Aglow board at the same time. Officers who are appointed to another level of leadership need to resign their positions on the local board as soon as possible.
- Only one member of a family should serve on the same executive board at the same time. When things are going well, it may not seem to be a problem to have family members on the same board. However, it can be painful when a conflict on your board causes turmoil in family relationships or when conflicts within the family cause problems on the Aglow board.
- Because Aglow is an interdenominational ministry, the executive board should represent different denominational backgrounds.

STEPS TO TAKE IN SELECTING EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

The selection of executive board officers is an important process. This process needs to include seeking God through times of prayer and asking Him for guidance. God has a particular role for each one being considered. He is about preparing leaders for the Kingdom.

When beginning a new Aglow, those who are likely to serve in some capacity of leadership should meet together with all who have felt God's leading in this matter. It is important to know each one's areas of gifting and what they are passionate about.

If you already have an established Aglow, the basic procedure described below will help you in selecting new officers.

Once prayer and discussion have begun and the officer selection has been committed to the Lord, the next step is to follow His leading and **step out in faith**. God is faithful and will provide guidance by the Holy Spirit as you proceed through the process.

After having spent sufficient time in prayer, reviewing the responsibilities and qualifications for executive board officers, you are ready to select officers.

- Look at each prospective officer’s gifting and find out what they are passionate about.
 - Before inviting a prospective officer, it is important to be sure they meet the qualifications previously listed in order to be approved for leadership in Aglow.
 - To invite someone to serve and then later inform them that they cannot be approved would be hurtful and cause discouragement from participating in Aglow.
1. Prayerfully read the job descriptions for all of the officers asking God to show each of you which person He has called and gifted for each position.
 - If international, national or area leaders are meeting with you; they may have recommendations or suggestions as to which candidate would be best suited for specific offices.
 2. Come to an agreement regarding who should serve in each position.
 - A vote can be taken, using written ballots. A simple majority is needed for selecting an officer.
 - Continue in prayer until everyone is in agreement.
 - After a decision is reached, those who have been selected for each position are invited to serve.
 3. Each person selected for an office should then prayerfully consider serving.
 - If they have assurance that this is God's will at the present, they are to complete a leadership questionnaire and go through an interview process with the advisor(s) before they can be officially approved.
 - The prospective officer should receive copies of the following:
 - A job description
 - Aglow’s Vision and Mission Statements
 - Statement of What We Believe.
 - A copy of qualifications and responsibilities for an Executive Board Member
 4. Arrange a time for local advisors to interview each prospective officer.
 5. By personally meeting and talking with each individual, the advisors can help confirm that this candidate agrees with what Aglow believes and is a good choice for leadership.

FOR NEWLY FORMING FELLOWSHIPS:

- Once the officer selection process is complete, the area, national or international leadership working with the local fellowship in the affiliation process will conduct the new officer interviews as described below and will need to complete the approval section of the leadership questionnaires for each new officer.

The approved executive board should pray together about choosing advisors for their fellowship. (See Part 1, Section 4A, - [Local Aglow Advisors](#).) After the advisors have accepted the invitation to serve in this way, the officers and the advisors need to meet together.

6. Ask advisors to complete the approval section of the leadership questionnaire for each candidate and return the papers in a confidential way.

To make it more comfortable for both the advisors and the individual, it is best if they do this following the interview instead of signing the questionnaire in front of the person or returning it to them.

7. The signed questionnaires and your fellowship's application for affiliation should be sent to the area or national leader who oversees Aglow in your area.

If national leadership has not been appointed for your nation, the questionnaires and the application for affiliation should be sent to:

Global Field Office – International
Aglow International
P.O. Box 1749
Edmonds, WA 98020-1749, USA

Fax: (425) 778-9615

Email: intl.fieldoffice@aglow.org

Upon final approval, you will receive your fellowship's charter (certificate of official affiliation).

*Send completed leadership questionnaires to area or national leaders every time there is an officer new to Aglow. No new questionnaires are required when there is only a position change; then a *Change of Officer* form should be completed. (Fellowships relating to International send questionnaires directly to the Global Field Office - International.) You will be notified when final approval is given.*

8. Notify new officers of their appointment after approval is complete.

At that time, they will begin officially serving as an Aglow leader.

9. Officers are initially asked to serve for two years, but they may continue for an indefinite period of time if they are performing their duties well and feel called to continue in that position. This should be discussed during evaluation times.

An officer may resign by informing the executive board of their intention. Area or national leadership and the Global Field Office – International should be informed of the resignation.

10. When there is a vacancy on the Executive Board, officers should pray and seek God for direction as to how to proceed with filling a position. If possible, it is best not to rush this process and to take time to find the right person.

Doing annual board evaluations should show each leader if there needs to be change on the board. Selecting new officers is necessary only when there is a vacancy on your local executive board.

If all officers are performing their duties well and feel called to serve in Aglow, they may all continue in their positions. If someone has lost the grace for their position, find another who is passionate about this role and train them. This frees the one ready to make a change to develop in their upgrade.

11. Fill a vacant position in one of the following two ways:

1. By an officer currently serving on the board.

When a president resigns, the vice-president *temporarily assumes* the position of president until a new president is selected. When any other officer resigns, the executive board divides the responsibilities or appoints an individual to temporarily fill the position until a new officer can be selected.

When another board member fills the vacant position, the appointment process and new leadership questionnaires are not necessary.

Changes in leadership, however, should be approved by the leaders overseeing the local Aglow, and a Change of Officer form (indicating the change in positions) will need to be submitted to them.

2. By appointing someone that is not currently serving on the board.

Follow the previous guidelines for selecting officers, being careful to invite only those who meet the qualifications needed for approval and those God has prepared.

Look beyond the immediate circle of friends that each board member has. There may be an anointed leader that God would bring into the board that no one knows very well yet.

When someone new is to be added to the board, the *local executive board works together as a team* to find prospective new officers.

If the new officer has already served in Aglow and has an approved Leadership Questionnaire on file, they may automatically assume the position as long as the executive board is in agreement. In that case, only a *Change of Office* form needs to be sent in to your area, national, or international leadership (whichever you relate to.)

Announce appointments to the Aglow fellowship after approval is complete.

NOTE: Upon leaving an appointed position, each officer should return all Aglow files, records, and handbooks to the executive board.

SECTION 4: EXECUTIVE BOARD POSITIONS

THERE ARE FOUR DISTINCT LOCAL EXECUTIVE BOARD POSITIONS:

The Aglow Executive Board is the team of leaders that set the direction of the local fellowship based on the vision and mission of the ministry worldwide which comes from the international office. The local board aligns the fellowship with Aglow's global vision. This team also works together to bring the Kingdom, which is the heart of God, in tangible ways to their community

The four key positions are:

- President
- Vice-President
- Secretary
- Treasurer

We encourage you, as you read the descriptions of the four key positions in a local Aglow, to recognize that each position has its own unique call and responsibilities. God has strategically assigned the Aglow ministry to break through old mindsets and advance His Kingdom on earth. Every executive board leader wears a mantle to break through any obstacle that might hinder success. The teams' apostolic anointing enables them to strategize, develop, and implement plans for growth and successful outreach.

The style and flavor of a local Aglow fellowship emerges as the team brings personal expression to the public meeting and seeks God's strategy on how to implement His plans. As the team embraces the mission and call of Aglow, the goal is that the community is blessed, impacted by His Presence, and transformed by His love.

Specific responsibilities for each officer are described on the following pages. While serving on the executive board, each officer should review their responsibilities from time to time to evaluate how they are doing.

THE LOCAL PRESIDENT

The local president fills a place of great influence, empowerment, and apostolic leadership. The president has a passion to keep Aglow's vision and mission central in all that the fellowship does. A leader of leaders, they recognize leadership qualities in others and work closely with all who serve in Aglow. The local president also works closely with the Holy Spirit, to see that all aspects of the Aglow ministry flow together.

The local president encourages board members to grow in their identity in Christ as well as keep Aglow's corporate identity, vision and mission central to all the fellowship does.

- Look for potential leaders who are anointed for the challenge and discovering, recognizing, and bringing forth their unique giftings.
- Although the president relates to all who serve in the local Aglow group, their primary responsibility is the executive board itself because they in turn will each relate to and encourage the other Aglow ministry helpers and coordinators.
- Challenge each board member to discover their identity in Christ and to develop their full potential as a leader, sharing from their heart, their experience, and God's Word.
- Encourage others' involvement, respecting their differences, listening carefully to each person, valuing other perspectives, in other words, freeing leaders to succeed and to make mistakes...freeing them to grow.
- Encourage times together as a board to pray for the local fellowship and for the community. Plan for special times as a board to just have fun together to foster relationships and board unity.
- Make sure executive board members are growing in their position and able to fulfill their role; helping the others become familiar with the *Local Handbook* and the broader scope of Aglow (in the area, nation, and world). Delegate responsibilities to others according to their gifting, so that each board member carries an equal amount of the responsibilities.
- Work with the executive board to train and support ministry coordinators, providing guidelines and materials to help them carry out their ministries and helping them develop a healthy sense of responsibility for their portion of the ministry.
- Initiate new ideas for the fellowship and motivate interest and enthusiasm to complete the goals that have been set.

The local president represents the Aglow fellowship as a whole and oversees all aspects of the local Aglow fellowship.

- Set a godly example of leadership: purity, humility, friendliness, etc., especially to the other board members, so that all of them might exemplify these qualities to those they serve.
- Receive direction, purpose, and inspiration from Aglow leaders they relate to on the area, national or international office level and keep in regular communication with them. (In order to accomplish this, you should raise or save funds to be able to attend retreats and conferences sponsored by Aglow.)
- Presides, with the participation of others on the Aglow board, over all public Aglow meetings as the main spokesperson for the group, imparting the local, national, and international vision and mission of Aglow to the entire fellowship.

- Guides the Aglow group by setting its pace and discussing plans and purposes for all facets of the ministry.
- The president prepares an agenda or program for public meetings that remains flexible to allow for the flowing of the Holy Spirit (including presiding during praise and worship by being visible in the front)
- Clearly communicates this information to speakers and all involved in the program.
- Guides the board in all decisions, especially in the selection of the speakers and setting the program.
- Explains, during public fellowship meetings, any spiritual manifestations while avoiding Christian phrases that non-Christians attending the meeting might not understand.
- Remains aware of all special guests and communicates directly (personally) with speakers, providing them with all the information they need about their honorarium, speaking time, etc.
- Makes sure information on special meetings (Bible studies, prayer groups, retreats, conferences, etc.) is announced publicly and that attendance is encouraged.
- Initiates and plans board meetings, being sure everyone is notified.
- The president prepares items to be discussed on the agenda, including personal and spiritual sharing as well as Aglow business.
 - They encourage the participation and comments of all board members.
 - They see that motions are made and seconded on any business requiring a vote.
 - They share all reports and/or correspondence from international, regional, national, or area leaders with other local officers.
 - They keep the meetings moving and conclude on time.

In general, the local president helps to establish a sense of unity and a loving acceptance among the members of the board and the fellowship. They are the key motivator and facilitator for the entire fellowship, helping to set goals that will accomplish God's plans and purposes and encouraging growth in all leaders. They are the mouthpiece or public relations person for their Aglow group as they communicate regularly with area or national leaders. They serve to connect their fellowship with Aglow members around the world by sharing what they hear with their Aglow and gladly passing on to others the stories of special interest that come from within their own Aglow group.

THE LOCAL VICE PRESIDENT

The local Vice-president has a unique relationship with the President, assisting as well as being prepared to stand in for them in their absence. The vice president (like the president) is a leader of leaders, as they work as a liaison between the executive board and the ministry coordinators of their Aglow fellowship. Not stopping there, they help take the ministry of Aglow out of the four walls and into the streets by assessing the needs of the community and bringing creative ideas to the team and suggest practical ways to meet those needs. They also are a literature consultant, as they work with Aglow printed materials.

The vice president serves as a liaison between the executive board and the ministry coordinators communicating regularly with the coordinators of the various ministries of their local group.

- Recognize gifts and talents in others and link them with ministry opportunities within the fellowship. Encourage new ways to reach people in the community (See [Aglow Ministry Opportunities](#) - Part 2, Section 6) in cooperation with the executive board.
- Stir up interest in the ministries that are on the heart of the board and thereby helping to establish them. (This may include communicating with the Vice President of Ministries on the area or national board that you relate to.)
- Recognize potential ministry coordinators and recommend them to the executive board, who decides corporately on the selection of coordinators as well as other basic aspects of the ministries. This includes recognizing their anointing, their gifting, and their skills. (See [Aglow Ministry Coordinators](#), for qualifications, responsibilities and selection procedures.)

The following Points should always be done with the president's awareness and, when necessary, with their help, as all ministries are under the supervision of the entire executive board.

- Give the [Leadership Questionnaires](#) to prospective ministry coordinators, seeing they are approved by the executive board, and keeping them on file when they are completed and signed by the advisors. (When a ministry coordinator leaves office, these may be destroyed)
- Personally discuss each ministry with the coordinator God raises up, answering questions and giving them practical suggestions if necessary.
- Make themselves available to the ministry coordinators; keeping these ministries on their hearts and in their prayers; and relating information about their responsibilities, such as meetings they are to attend. In other words, encouraging each ministry to flourish.
- Provide each new ministry coordinator or helper with a copy of the training materials or guidelines needed as approved by the entire board.

The Vice President Gives General Oversight To The Publications Ministry For The Fellowship.

- a. Bring the idea of a publications ministry before the executive board (i.e. explaining how they might have a book/CD/DVD table at public meetings, etc.) and discuss direction on how this ministry should develop.
- b. Recommend to the executive board a candidate to serve as publications coordinator. If a coordinator is not available, the vice president should carry out these responsibilities, perhaps finding an assistant to help.
- c. Promote and encourage the use of Aglow approved literature. Your national leadership should be able to facilitate the ordering procedures for your nation.
 - The vice president should be familiar with all books and materials distributed or recommended by Aglow. Check the Aglow website at www.aglow.org to see how to order books or to download and print the free Bible study materials. Non-Aglow publications or books not on Aglow's recommended reading list must be approved by the executive board.
 - They will be responsible for ordering all Aglow material needed for the fellowship with the approval of the executive board. This includes ordering a book well in advance of a meeting if the board decides to use a book-related theme. (See Part 2, Section 7 [Ordering/Selling Materials.](#))
- d. They will initiate and coordinate the use of translations of literature when necessary.
- e. Supplement the Aglow approved literature with other pertinent Christian literature that would be of use to the members in the fellowship as explained below.
 - The use of other literature at Aglow meetings should be in accordance with national and international procedures as explained by your leadership.
 - The vice president should keep the members in the fellowship "on target" by becoming aware of literature items that are questionable and trying to meet their needs with appropriate items. Again, she should consult leadership when necessary.

In general, the vice president gives support and encouragement to the president, assuming all duties of the president upon request or in their absence although they will not automatically serve as president when the president leaves office. (Follow the [Steps to Take in Choosing Officers](#) in Section 3). In addition, they fulfill two especially vital areas of the local Aglow. By working directly with the group's ministry coordinators, they are a key person to envision new outreaches or community ministries and to encourage them once they begin. Also, as the vice president oversees the publications ministry, they are to keep the Aglow members abreast of the valuable informative and inspirational materials that are currently available in Aglow and in the Body of Christ.

THE LOCAL SECRETARY

The local secretary has a unique position which can be twofold as the responsibilities of the secretary may be carried out by one or two people. There are two types of local secretary - a recording secretary and a corresponding secretary. The recording secretary position requires record keeping, and organizational skills. The corresponding secretary position involves written communication with the public. If one person is able to fulfill both of these areas adequately, your board may only require one secretary. On the other hand, if two secretaries are needed, this is also fine. Secretaries who effectively carry out their responsibilities help the entire local ministry function more smoothly.

The local secretary keeps the executive board organized by keeping good records.

- a. Take accurate minutes (i.e. a brief summary of discussions, using grace and wisdom in recording discussion points and all decisions made) at every board meeting.

MINUTES SHOULD INCLUDE:

- Names of those in attendance
- Treasurer's report
- All motions discussed
- Upcoming events
- Summary of reports from ministries

Minutes should be neatly written or typed. The secretary reads the past month's minutes at the beginning of each board meeting, and the executive board offers changes and approves them.

- b. Copy and distribute the minutes so that certain people receive a copy each month. Copies should be given to each board member, local advisors, and the Aglow leadership that you relate to (i.e., area, national, or the international office).
- c. Work with the treasurer in counting funds and recording all financial decisions/reports correctly. They record in the minutes all moneys spent and received each month as well as the balance of funds on hand.
- d. Encourage guests to become Aglow members and record membership information, in countries where membership is offered. There should be a membership announcement at each meeting, explaining how, when, and why to join Aglow.
- e. Keep record of attendance at public meetings so that communication with them may be established. This may include creating a directory of members' names and addresses so that they may be contacted about future meetings.

The secretary serves as a public relations person for the local ministry through their notes, letters, and publicity.

Communicate with the leadership overseeing the Aglow group by sending minutes and letters at the direction of the executive board. The secretary should include the Aglow identification number and the name of the fellowship on all correspondence to the Global Field Office – International.

Usually the president corresponds with national or international leaders and the secretary often takes care of the more routine paperwork and correspondence.

- f.** Send thank-you notes to speakers and special guests.
- g.** Share in writing the good things God is doing in the Aglow group. This may include putting together a simple newsletter or information page for Aglow members and guests; if this is done, please send copies of newsletters or testimonies to your national leaders or the international office as well.
- h.** Share prayer concerns with others. This may involve periodic correspondence with the prayer coordinator for your nation (as explained by your national leadership) as well as working with the local prayer coordinator.
- i.** Submit changes in leadership and new addresses with phone/fax numbers to area, national, and international leadership. (Please keep in mind that Aglow International spends money each year on returned mail because of address changes.)
- j.** Publicize Aglow meetings, special events, and ministries through posters and other media (radio, television, etc.)

The secretary's organizational skills contribute to the order and harmony of the local fellowship. Their minutes capture the action and direction of the board and help everyone see where your Aglow group has come from, where it is headed, and how you plan to get there. As they express the love of Jesus through notes and letters, and spread the news about Aglow, the secretary is a valuable part of the ministry.

THE LOCAL TREASURER

The local treasurer oversees the financial matters for the board and the local fellowship and is an inspiration as they believe God will more than supply the financial needs of the fellowship. They understand the Biblical principles of being a generous and cheerful giver. They have a willing heart to work with numbers and carefully watch over and record the flow of funds.

The treasurer accurately accounts for all funds received and spent by the Aglow fellowship.

- a. Manage or monitor all fellowship funds as the executive board decides. This includes organizing the collection of offerings and all other income as well as seeing that funds are spent according to appropriate Aglow procedures.
- b. Keep accurate records of all financial transactions. It is recommended that the treasurer keep a financial journal, showing income (cash received) and expenses (cash payments). It is very important that they set up a good system for accurate accounting of all fellowship finances. If they need assistance, they should contact their area or national leadership to develop basic bookkeeping skills.
- c. Get the executive board's approval for all expenditures. Decisions to spend money should be made at executive board meetings and noted in the minutes.
- d. Deposit all funds received and pay the bills of the fellowship with fellowship funds. All bills should be paid with a check if possible. (If cash is used, it is important to obtain a receipt.)

NOTE: If checks are commonly used to pay expenses in your nation, you are encouraged to open a bank account under the name of your local Aglow fellowship. The account should list three signatures; two would be required on each check that is written. The third person authorized to sign may be used as an alternate in the absence of one of the others. The treasurer should be one of those authorized to sign and will usually write the checks. If bank accounts and checks are used in your fellowship, it is important to reconcile (or balance) the account each month.

- e. Prepare and present (at executive board meetings) a monthly treasurer's report, showing income, expenses and current balance. The report should be included in the board minutes.
- f. Complete the annual financial report and send it to the leadership they relate to (national, area, or international), keeping a copy for the local records. (A copy of this report can be found at the end of the Treasurer job description.) Make a copy to use for your annual report.
- g. Annually arrange for someone who understands bookkeeping (other than a board member) to review the financial records of the fellowship. This person should sign a statement verifying that this has been done and indicate if the records are accurate and in good order. (This should also be done whenever a new treasurer comes into office.) The treasurer should keep the original statement in their files, sending a copy to the area or national leaders along with the annual financial report.

The treasurer is a source of inspiration for the stewardship of God's resources.

- h.** Be careful that the executive board knows and complies with all financial laws in your nation.
- i.** Keep all Aglow money and expenses separate from personal money. Article VI of the Articles of Incorporation of Aglow International states, “None of the funds of this corporation are to be expended to subsidize personal enterprise or personal ministries.” Aglow funds are to be used only for Aglow-related activities and outreach to the community.
- j.** Avoid all debt and the borrowing of funds in the name of Aglow (unless authorized by national or international leadership).

NOTES ON OFFERINGS:

- Prayerfully receive offerings at public meetings. Any member of the executive board or someone appointed by the board may receive the offering, but there is often an anointing on the treasurer to do this. Speakers or special guests are not allowed to receive the offering nor solicit pledges for their own ministries.
- The person receiving the offering should be sincere, positive, and enthusiastic about the joy of giving. They should keep the presentation brief, but meaningful, and include a short prayer.
- When receiving the offering, consider including a scripture or brief testimony on giving. Share the needs of your fellowship and explain how the money will be used. Let your listeners know that their money will help make a difference in other people’s lives (with specific details if possible), help pay the fellowship's expenses and/or help provide a love gift for the speaker.
- After the meeting has closed, two executive board officers (usually the treasurer and secretary) should carefully count the offering in a private place. It is best for both officers to make a separate count and then verify that their totals agree. Offering money needs to be kept separate from any other money until after it has been counted and recorded.
- Make certain any guest speaker/teacher receives a love gift, decided upon in advance by your executive board. (Any travel or other expenses should be in addition to the amount of the love gift and should also be determined by the executive board.)
- Separate a tithe of 10% from the fellowship's offerings and send it to the leadership you relate to (either area, national, or international).
- Any funds sent to Aglow Global Headquarters offices for publications, conference registrations, or as a love gift, must be by check or money order instead of cash or your own currency. All funds should be sent in U.S. dollars. For safety of the funds, cash should never be sent through the mail. A certified check or money order is less likely to be stolen and can usually be replaced if lost in the mail.

The local treasurer sees the treasury as God-given resources to carry out Spirit-led goals and to touch lives for Jesus. They carefully **watch over and record the flow of funds**, observing firsthand how God provides again and again, and they **encourage the board and the fellowship** to be active, faithful stewards of all God gives.

SECTION 4A: LOCAL AGLOW ADVISORS

A NOTE TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD...

In selecting people to support your local Aglow ministry, you (as the executive board) will want to prayerfully consider whom God would ask you to invite. As you study the role advisors play, the responsibilities they are to fulfill, and their qualifications (on the following pages), you will want to approach those who you feel would encourage your ministry to be all God has intended it to be. Every local Aglow is encouraged to have 2 or 3 advisors from different churches. However, we realize this is not always possible, so you may feel free to discuss this with the leadership for your nation.

The following “Note to Aglow Advisors” was written to be photocopied and given to prospective advisors that you are interested in inviting to serve.

TO HELP YOU RELATE TO YOUR ADVISORS IN THE FUTURE, HERE ARE A FEW GUIDELINES TO KEEP IN MIND:

- Your primary responsibility to your advisors is to keep the relationship between you strong by keeping them aware of what God is doing in your Aglow.
- You do this first by explaining the ministry of Aglow and their responsibilities clearly, giving them a copy of all written material that may be helpful to them (i.e. Aglow brochures, A Note to Advisors, and copies of pertinent pages of this handbook.)
- In addition, you should send your advisors (as well as your area or national leadership) copies of regular board minutes. You should set up meetings two or three times a year for a time of sharing what is on your hearts and of receiving what is on theirs.
- You try to keep the advisors aware of any new Aglow materials and events.
- You should let advisors know how much you appreciate their support on a regular basis, remembering to invite them to public meetings, area retreats, and leadership training seminars as your guests (covering their expenses.)
- At the end of the one-year term, send the advisors warm thank you letters. If there was a particular time during the year when you especially appreciated their input or help, make sure you mention it. A specific thank you means much more than a general word of appreciation.
- You may invite all or some of your advisors to serve again. If they are not invited to serve again, you need to show your appreciation and then select replacements.

NOTE: It is recommended that an advisor serve on only one Aglow board at a time although exceptions can be made if this is not possible. Contact your national leadership for guidance. Spouses of Aglow officers should not serve as advisors for the board on which their wives or husbands serve.

A NOTE TO AGLOW ADVISORS...

Aglow on all levels (locally, nationally, and internationally) seeks the support and guidance of a special group of women and men they refer to as Aglow Advisors. These advisors contribute to the ministry in many ways although they are not part of Aglow's leadership.

QUALIFICATIONS OF THE LOCAL AGLOW ADVISORS

AGLOW ADVISORS ARE...

- Born-again believers in Jesus Christ
- Baptized in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues
- In agreement with Aglow's statement of What We Believe
- Representative of a diversity of denominational backgrounds, if possible, and people who are well-respected in the community
- Able to serve a one-year term
- Willing to offer advice and counsel without being aggressive or domineering

ROLE OF ADVISORS

AN AGLOW ADVISOR...

- Provides perspective and advice on questions the local board may have; everything from a doctrinal issue to a fund-raising event to a sensitive problem in their fellowship or on their board.
- Understands that the executive board is looking to you and the other advisors to advise, not lead, their Aglow. (And with your already crowded schedule, you're probably thankful!) Your willingness to offer insights will be a valuable strength to Aglow.
- Understands you are a member of a team of advisors, with the executive board consulting all the advisors. Advice from advisors may differ a little, since it's likely that no advisor will have the total answer all the time. The executive board will trust the Lord to lead them as they glean from the corporate advice of the advisors.
- Appreciates that Aglow is interdenominational and is not interested in promoting their own denominational or theological issues.
- Rotates with the other advisors in attending the regular outreach meetings of the Aglow fellowship so that, whenever possible, at least one will be in attendance. You will be the guest of the executive board and your spouse, if you are married, is always welcome to join you.
- Is available, if requested by the executive board, to approve any non-Aglow books sold on the publications table at outreach meetings, and also to review non-Aglow Bible study material for scriptural soundness before it is used in an Aglow Bible study. This is the executive board's choice; it is not required.
- Can be called upon to counsel people referred to them by the executive board.
- Interviews nominees for executive board offices and reviews and signs their leadership questionnaires.
- Interviews ministry chairs and/or workers, if requested by the executive board, to insure they are in agreement with Aglow's statement of What We Believe. This is the executive board's choice; it is not required.

- May be called upon to offer the executive board periodic teaching as requested—how to counsel, how to lead to salvation, etc.
- Is available to meet two or three times a year with the executive board and the other advisors. This gives advisors an opportunity to know the executive board and the other advisors better and to offer advice and suggestions. It is also an ideal time for the advisors to be briefed on the latest in the Aglow ministry and in the Aglow fellowship.
- To help you stay abreast of the latest happenings in the Aglow fellowship, the secretary will send you a copy of their executive board minutes each month.

A SPECIAL NOTE

Because each new Aglow board selects its own advisors, each advisor is asked to serve on a yearly basis. It is recommended that an advisor serve on only one Aglow board at a time and that spouses of Aglow officers not serve as advisors for the board on which their husband or wife serves.

PART 2:

SECTION 5: EVALUATING BOARD EFFECTIVENESS IDENTITY IS THE KEY TO TRANSFORMATION

LOCAL BOARD EVALUATION - A TIME OF REVIEWING GOALS...

The beginning or end of each year is a good time for evaluating your Aglow's progress. At that time, completing the *Local Board Evaluation* form (on the following page) provides the Local Board with an opportunity to review how far they have come in their individual and corporate identity over the year. As we individually grow in our identity in Christ, we learn to recognize how we are known in heaven and what we are to become on earth. We learn how relate to each other according to how Heaven sees us. As the local fellowship grows in its corporate identity, it is important to evaluate if the fellowship is in alignment with the vision and mission of Aglow. We understand in a greater way that there can no longer be a disparity/difference between Aglow's corporate identity and individual identity.

Plan to meet together as a board and openly and honestly discuss each question listed on the evaluation form.

PURPOSES OF THE LOCAL BOARD EVALUATION ARE...

- to affirm and encourage each other from the perspective of how heaven sees us
- to evaluate what has been accomplished
- to evaluate effectiveness of board members
- to determine needed changes or adjustments
- to set goals for the coming year.

EVALUATING FOR GREATER FRUITFULNESS...

The evaluation is one tool which can help your local board determine if it is accomplishing the corporate vision to carry the truth of the Kingdom that:

- **Restores people to a radiant place of relationship with God and one another** (*Brings people back to the joy of their first love with God.*)
- **Breaks the tyranny of oppression** (*Sets the captives free!*)
- **Brings freedom and empowerment.** (*That we can be all God intends for us to be!*)

EVALUATING WAYS TO TRANSFORM YOUR COMMUNITY...

The evaluation is also a time to examine if we are about reaching out to our community with the purpose of bringing transformation.

As our president, Jane Hansen Hoyt has said:

We are about bringing the Kingdom into each community because that is the heart of God. The word says, 'I am bringing you out of (a kingdom of darkness) that I might bring you in (to the Kingdom of Light).' I am bringing you out of something to bring you into something.

We want to see each person's life radically changed by them personally knowing and walking in relationship with God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.

As you read through the Aglow Mission Statement, in what ways are you as a Local Fellowship:

...mobilizing those in our communities into a company of warriors, champions, and leaders of global significance?

...seeing the fullness of Christ on display in our communities?

...empowering people to develop resources that enable them to take advantage of all that God is releasing from Heaven?

... bringing opportunities for those in our community to upgrade so they become Kingdom bringers and image bearers of God?

...seeing apostolic teams formed that demonstrate the power of Heaven in the darkest, most hopeless places in our cities and towns?

...developing people so that they move in the strength of all that Jesus provided through His death, burial, and resurrection?

STEPS FOR EVALUATION...

- **Copy the *Local Board Evaluation* form on the following pages.**
- **Meet together as a board for the evaluation.**
- **Read and discuss each question on the evaluation form.** For the evaluation to be worthwhile, it is important to be open and honest with each other, speaking the truth in love.
- **Have one person complete the form summarizing the discussion.** A secretary may be chosen to record your board's input on the form. After discussing each question, they should read the notes aloud and get the approval of the board. The goal is to communicate the consensus of the whole board, not just one or two members.
- **On occasion, the evaluation may come at a time when one of your officers is experiencing relationship issues on the board or not fulfilling their responsibilities.** Consider using [Problems=Promises=Provision=Upgrade](#) (See Part 2, Section 5 of this handbook) as a tool to help work through difficulties. If you have taken the appropriate steps to resolve this, and the officer is unresponsive, that should be noted on the evaluation form. At this point, consider seeking the input of an advisor or the leadership in your nation.
- **Make and keep a copy of the completed form** for your fellowship's records.
- **Send the completed form to the Aglow leadership you relate to** (i.e. area or national board, or Aglow International Headquarters, Attn: Global Field Office – International).

PROBLEMS = PROMISES = PROVISION = UPGRADE

An Aglow Local Fellowship Board is made up of a diverse group of leaders. Each one is committed to working together in unity and bringing to the table both strengths and weaknesses.

We are learning that “identity is the key to transformation”. Identity is the key to every relational difficulty and every problem in life. As we grow in our identity, we are putting on the new nature and being established in that. We are being transformed! As we grow in our identity in Christ, we learn to relate to each other according to how Heaven sees us. We are able to view individual differences as a good thing and not be threatened.

We are learning to see with the eyes of the Father and to recognize peoples’ identity. We are able to appreciate what each one brings to the Board. We can rejoice that God did not make us all the same!

When discussing a problem on the Board, confidentiality it is very important. What is shared between Board members should not be discussed with other Aglow members, friends, advisors, etc. Remember to treat one another with love and respect.

We must be determined to deal with all people according to their new nature **and** their identity, not their old nature and their behavior. There may be times when a Board member:

- is not able to fulfill their job responsibilities
- has a wrong belief which brings a sense of discord on the Board
- is being critical or taking offense
- needs guidance in how to work with a “team”

When any of the above occurs, it is important for the relationship that we deal with one another as He does which is joyfully, righteously, lovingly and graciously. God does not see what is wrong with us; He sees what is missing from our experience of Him and He is absolutely committed to giving each one that experience. As leaders we are to be relentless about the good news of Jesus Christ in the identity of the people around us.

Knowing the specific roles of each board member is essential. We do not want to make everyone the same; we want to value the differences.
Graham Cooke

CALLING AGLOW LEADERS UP, NOT OUT

Identity is the key to transformation. We do not become a new person by *changing our behavior*. We discover the person we already are in Christ and we behave accordingly. We need to be relentless about that.

The antidote to our past is not to our present being sorted out. It is about our future being determined. God is not present past; He has dealt with our past. He is present future to give us a future and a hope.

I know the plans I have for you, plans for your welfare, not your calamity, to give you a hope and future.
Jeremiah 29:11

If your board runs into a time of difficulty, here are a few things to remember:

- Be sensitive to the Holy Spirit as to the timing of dealing with an issue, what to say, and how to say it. Countering negativity by moving in the opposite spirit.
- **Create an atmosphere where it is safe to share hearts openly and honestly.**
- Relationship is key and of greatest value in God's eyes.
- Be straightforward as you speak as well as kind and gracious.
- **Keep in mind that in every difficult person or situation, there is a Fruit of the Spirit available to you that will help turn that situation into something wonderful.**

As leaders it is important for us to live our lives in a way that causes us to see others and those we serve with in Aglow as Heaven sees them. We are learning to live an ascended lifestyle; we are to consistently call those around us to a higher way of life by speaking to them as God sees them, *not according to their behavior*. As leaders, we are to instruct them in ways that cause them to come to a higher way of life so that they, in turn, can lead others to a higher place. We are to call them up in their identity and demonstrate to them what it means to live an ascended lifestyle!

LEADERS DEMONSTRATE AN ASCENDED LIFESTYLE

What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection. Romans 6:1-5

As leaders we are here to demonstrate what an ascended life style really looks like. We have been raised by the same resurrection power that raised Jesus from the dead. We no longer think and see in the natural level, we have the mind of Christ. We have an option and capacity to think like Jesus. We are now alive to God every day, in every situation or difficulty. Everything in our life, God has ordained that there is something that we should abide in that gets us through by a glorious encounter with Him. There is no place for worry, fear, low self-esteem, etc. We no longer walk in old thinking or wrong mindsets. We are walking in newness of life. We are in Christ.

As we process through each situation in life, we are continually discovering who we really are in Christ and who Christ really is in us. Now we can see that each *problem* we face has a *promise* that brings *provision* that ensures us a glorious *encounter* with God. There will be an *upgrade* in our walk with God. All of our assignments are resourced by Heaven. We are more than conquerors. We are living an ascended lifestyle!

When an Aglow leader is struggling in their position or is questioning their call in Aglow, asking the right questions will enable them to discover the mind of Christ in their current difficulty, to grow properly and lead them on into victory to live an ascended life style.

God has given each one of us a rich inheritance and wants us to discover it and walk in the fullness of it. We have the joyful responsibility to help people to live as the beloved of God. Every one of us needs someone to point out to us the beauty of who we really are in Jesus.

In order to help discover in a fuller way who we are in Christ, the questions below will be a helpful tool for Aglow leaders to use during times of discussion and processing together.

PROBLEMS=PROMISES FROM GOD=PROVISION=UPGRADE AND ENCOUNTER

On a separate piece of paper, answer the following key questions and see what God does:

How do I view this struggle or difficulty through Your Majesty?

What does this mean for me? What am I to do?

How do I feel about continuing as a leader?

What are the prophetic words I have received that speak of how heaven sees me and the upgrade God has for me?

What part of my identity needs an upgrade?

What if Aglow was known as a radiant group of encouragers who continually spoke of who God is and who God is for us, moving from the negative, putting off the old and walking truly in a resurrected life style which is the truth? - Jane Hansen Hoyt

SECTION 6: MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

The local Aglow group offers many opportunities to serve the Lord according to His leading and their interests and giftings. The more people who share in the responsibility for the transformation of the community, the more life you will see in the Fellowship. Watch for those who are creative and have a passion for outreach and ask them to join the Ministry Support Team.

Future officers for the Local executive board are often found among those serving as ministry coordinator. Serving provides training for those future leaders. More importantly, building community and relationship causes people to feel safe, loved, and valued.

THE MINISTRY SUPPORT TEAM

The local Aglow fellowship offers women and men opportunities to serve in a variety of capacities. Besides positions on the executive board, they may serve as support for various ministries as a **ministry coordinator** or as an **Aglow helper** in several significant areas. The responsibilities and qualifications for both positions are on the following pages which may be photocopied as needed and given to those interested in serving.

AN AGLOW MINISTRY COORDINATOR

Working alongside the Aglow local executive board, are the **ministry coordinators**. These individuals are vital to fulfilling the ministry of the local Aglow. They meet together regularly with the executive board (during full board meetings) and share God's heart for the ministry.

Each **ministry coordinator** is someone who volunteers to oversee (and/or establish) a particular ministry in the Local Aglow that God has put on their heart. Relating very closely to the executive board (especially the vice president), they keep them fully informed of all their Aglow work.

Some of these ministries take place within the fellowship group, and some affect the community as well. In Aglow there are opportunities to coordinate the ministries of hostessing, Bible studies, prisons, hospitals, and many others.

The range of ministries in Aglow allows for growth in women and men as they assume responsibilities for leadership and/or ministry. For example, a searching heart may first hear about Jesus at a public Aglow meeting. Then they are encouraged to grow in their walk with the Lord by attending a Bible study, or prayer meeting. From that point, they are encouraged to reach out even more to others with specific needs through a variety of ministries. That's part of the beauty of Aglow! And playing the lead role in Local Aglow ministries are the **ministry coordinators**.

Members of the local executive board should seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit before deciding which Aglow ministries to include in their fellowship. It may be best to start with the most basic ministries, adding other ministries as the Lord directs. Each ministry will need its own **ministry coordinator** to oversee the specifics.

First, we will describe how ministry coordinators are selected and then list their qualifications and general responsibilities.

SELECTING MINISTRY COORDINATORS

Since the executive board oversees the creation and/or development of the ministries involved in the local fellowship, they will want to pray and talk together before selecting the individuals they feel God would have coordinate each ministry.

- Ministry coordinators must each meet the qualifications listed on the next page.
- They must be able and willing to fulfill the responsibilities listed on previous pages.
- Ministry coordinators may be selected to serve the local Aglow for an indefinite period of time, but a *minimum of one year is suggested*.
- Executive board officers may also serve as ministry coordinators. When possible, a different person should lead each ministry, but several may be led by the same person if necessary.

The *board evaluation*, often done in January, is a good time to consider the ministries God desires to see in the Aglow fellowship. (See Part 2, Section 5 for further explanation of [board evaluations](#).) Since coordinators are asked to serve for one year, if they are normally appointed in January, it is easy for the board to assess the ministries at that time each year. It is also a good time to check with coordinators about how things are going although the executive board will no doubt want to stay in close communication with them throughout the year.

STEPS TO APPOINTING A MINISTRY COORDINATOR

1. After praying and considering the qualifications for the position, the executive board selects and invites an individual to serve.
2. If they accept the invitation, they need to complete a leadership questionnaire form.
3. If after reviewing the completed questionnaire, the board still feels comfortable appointing this coordinator, they should welcome them by introducing them to the fellowship and inviting them to the first full board meeting. (If after reviewing the completed questionnaire, the board feels uncertain or would like another opinion, an advisor may be asked to interview them.)
4. Keep the leadership questionnaire in the executive board's files (instead of sending it to the leadership you relate to) and begin to look for ways the executive board can encourage this new ministry and this new member of the executive board. The executive board will want to acquaint each coordinator with Aglow and with their responsibilities in the ministry, being available to answer questions and help in any way needed.

Note: The executive board consists of the president, vice-president, secretary (or secretaries), and treasurer. The full board includes the executive board and the ministry coordinators.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR MINISTRY COORDINATORS

- Ministry coordinators are a *born-again believer* in the Lord Jesus Christ.
- They are *baptized in the Holy Spirit* and speak in tongues
- They are in *agreement with Aglow's statement of What We Believe*.
- They regularly *read the Bible*, have a basic knowledge of it, and seek daily fellowship with the Lord.
- They are able to *pray with someone* to receive Jesus as Savior and Baptizer in the Holy Spirit (although this may not often occur in their ministry.)
- They attend one local church regularly.
- They have the agreement of their spouse, if married.
- They are regular *attendees at Aglow meetings* (a member, if membership is available.)
- They are *enthusiastic and knowledgeable* about Aglow and their area of ministry, desiring to be part of the international organization.
- They have a *desire to serve* others.
- They show *leadership potential* and are willing to learn and grow in teamwork with others.
- They are available to commit to a particular ministry for *at least one year*.
- They are able to *attend monthly public meetings as well as full board meetings* where they can present their questions, suggestions, or praise reports about their area of ministry.
- They are willing and able to *attend leadership training sessions* when they are offered, and they encourage their helpers to do the same.
- They are willing to work in *unity* with others as part of the local fellowship team.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF A MINISTRY COORDINATOR

A **ministry coordinator's** first responsibility is to *enjoy building relationship with* the members of the executive board, and the other coordinators and helpers that make this Aglow what it is. Each Aglow leader should be able to look to one another for encouragement and support. They are responsible for overseeing their particular ministry, while staying connected with the whole Aglow fellowship, especially the executive board members.

The **ministry coordinator** should feel especially connected to the vice president, who is the liaison (or contact person) with the executive board. The vice president is available to each coordinator for ongoing advice, encouragement, and support. They are also the ones to make available the leadership materials or guidelines that may be needed in each ministry.

The following are the basic responsibilities common to all ministry coordinators:

- Ministry coordinators are to **organize and develop** their area of ministry, working in concert with the executive board.
- They are to **see that all aspects of their particular ministries** are covered or taken care of by a helper on their ministry committee.
- They are **people-developers** as they appoint and train helpers to work with them. Some ministries will naturally involve more people, meaning more ideas and multiplied fruit. Aglow members who seem to be “spectators” may still be waiting to fit into an area of ministry.

Everyone’s talents or giftings and the desires of their hearts are valuable and needed in some way. The coordinator may feel free to approach someone and tell them about their area of ministry; they must be careful, however, not to push people into helping, nor to make them feel guilty if they are not inclined to participate.

They are to **attend a monthly meeting** with the executive board and the other ministry coordinators (referred to as a full board meeting.) They are to participate in the board meeting, establishing a close working relationship with the whole local team. They may at times be asked to present suggestions, needs, and praise reports concerning their area of responsibility.

- They are to **attend leadership training sessions** when they are available and to encourage the members of their committee to do the same.
- They are to **pray, minister, and move** as the Holy Spirit leads them in order to accomplish God’s will for this particular ministry.
- They are to **return all Aglow materials** and ministry tools to the executive board when they leave the position.

The ministry coordinator is a **specialist**, responding to a particular area of need in people’s lives or in the community. As some of the possible ministries are discussed in the next section there will be a **focus** given for each. This specific focus (to be developed as God leads) may be the main goal of each ministry.

AN AGLOW MINISTRY HELPER

This individual is a valuable asset to the board and the entire fellowship, helping in areas that touch peoples' lives and enrich the Aglow ministry. When the executive board sees a need in the fellowship or a ministry coordinator is forming a committee, they should seek help from others in the Aglow fellowship. These people may be asked to be Aglow ministry helpers by assisting in any area where there is a need.

An Aglow ministry helper may work in areas such as,

- helping on a committee (i.e. prison ministry committee, etc.)
- assisting in practical ways with monthly meetings
- arranging for childcare
- hosting public meetings (greeting people as they arrive and making them feel welcome and “at home”)
- hosting Bible study and support groups (opening their home to those desiring to meet.)

A HELPER MAY

- volunteer or be approached by the executive board (with one officer as a spokesperson) or by a ministry coordinator (to help on a committee.)
- agree to help out in a certain area but are not required to attend training or board meetings.
- not need to make a definite time commitment, but they should be reliable and stay in good communication with their ministry coordinator.
- Moreover, a helper does not need to meet all the qualifications expected of ministry coordinators or executive board members, so this is an ideal role for the person who wants to serve in Aglow but has not yet been baptized in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues.

Aglow has always welcomed people who help the ministry in a variety of ways, and without these workers, the ministry may not be able to become all that God has on His heart. These faithful workers should be recognized and appreciated as much as possible.

THE LOCAL FELLOWSHIP MINISTRIES

HOW TO BEGIN AN AGLOW MINISTRY WITHIN THE LOCAL FELLOWSHIP

Aglow ministries will be an outpouring of God's love, as we depend on Him to give us the *desire and plan* to minister this love to others. Once God gives us the desire to help others in a certain way, He then begins to lead us in the step-by-step plan He has in mind. We do not necessarily know the scope of the ministry when we begin, but we take the first steps by faith.

WHAT MINISTRIES ARE THERE?

With the great diversity of needs in every community today, there are numerous ministry possibilities. The following are some of the ministries that are part of Aglow fellowships worldwide.

Within the Aglow fellowship itself, there are opportunities to minister as...

- a host/hostess
- a decorations or refreshments coordinator
- a praise and worship leader
- an accompanist in worship
- a publications person
- a publicity worker
- a Bible study leader
- a prayer group leader

Other ministries go beyond the fellowship, touching people in the community, and include...

- ministry to children
- ministry to the generations (18 to 35 years old)
- ministry to the elderly
- hospital ministry
- prison/jail ministry
- anti-human trafficking – for more information go to the Aglow website

In addition to these, we have heard stories of ministries to prostitutes and unwed mothers, as well as wonderfully creative ways to feed and clothe the poor. Reaching ethnic groups and helping indigenous people are also demonstrations of God's powerful love and compassion. *If there is a need in your area, then there is a potential Aglow ministry.*

NOTE: It is best for men to minister to men, and for women to minister to women.

WHO OVERSEES AN AGLOW MINISTRY?

If God gives you the vision for a ministry, He probably wants you involved in it. If you have a ministry on your heart, you should discuss it with the Aglow executive board. It may be that an executive officer will oversee the ministry to begin with, or perhaps you or someone else in the fellowship will be invited to serve as a coordinator for the ministry.

SHOULD WE TELL OTHERS ABOUT ANY OF OUR MINISTRIES?

Each ministry will be unique and designed to fit the needs of a specific type of people and the abilities and time of the leaders. Whatever the Lord leads you to do to bring God's love into your community is significant and worthy to be shared. Your stories give others ideas for ways to reach their community and get all of us aware of the scope of Aglow's ministry. On a weekly basis interesting and inspiring Aglow ministry news stories are posted on the Aglow website.

Please send all stories to the national Aglow leader you relate to. They will send it on to the Aglow Global Field Office – International at the headquarters office.

AGLOW MINISTRIES WITHIN THE LOCAL FELLOWSHIP

The ministries that take place at Aglow meetings all help to make the Aglow experience warm and loving. Each of these ministries helps create a joyful, supportive atmosphere where those who are non-Christians can find Jesus Christ and Christians can enjoy a chance to meet together in Jesus.

The following are the areas of focus that these ministry coordinators and their committees will want to keep in mind:

HOST/HOSTESSING

The focus for the host or hostess coordinator is to create a friendly and inviting atmosphere for those attending Aglow meetings, being especially sensitive to newcomers and those who have come alone. The coordinator may select and train other host/hostesses as the need arises. Host/hostesses should arrive early to help with the room set up (signs, chairs, water, etc.), being available to help the executive board as needed. They may also be asked to plan and serve refreshments (or this may be done by a decorations committee.)

The host or hostess is the first person that people see when they attend an Aglow meeting. Their love and friendship may make an eternal difference in peoples' lives. They should be able to explain to newcomers what Aglow is all about, and they may give out an Aglow brochure to newcomers to acquaint them with the ministry.

Hosts and hostesses are hospitable and enjoy people, willing to serve the board and the fellowship in order to make everyone feel comfortable. They are attentive to disturbances that occur and take appropriate action in an inconspicuous way. (Please note that the executive board is responsible for the general flow of the meeting.) They may be asked to follow-up a public meeting with a phone call to ask how the visitor enjoyed the meeting and to answer questions they may have (or this may be done by executive board members.)

DECORATIONS/REFRESHMENTS

The focus for this ministry is to provide a warm and appealing atmosphere through the artful use of appropriate decorations. Choosing different items each month (a few candles...a bouquet of flowers...some borrowed ceramic teapots...several spools of lace ribbon, or more masculine decorations for the men's groups), the decorations coordinator sets the mood and uplifts the spirits of all attending the Aglow meeting. The planning of refreshments may also be part of this coordinator's responsibilities or it may be handled by the host/hostesses.

The decorations coordinator will need to arrive early enough to arrange the decorations and stay after to take care of them. If for sale, the decorations may be sold at the end of the meeting to provide a source of funds for further decorations or to help finance special projects that the fellowship has.

PRAISE AND WORSHIP

The focus of the worship leader is to lead the group in praise to our Lord and into true worship in cooperation with the local president who presides over the meeting. They do not need to have a soloist's voice, but they should sing well enough to carry a melody clearly and in tune and be a worshiper themselves. Perhaps some of the most important time will be in preparation of the worship leader's heart and seeking the Lord's direction for the praise and worship they are to lead. As they keep their focus on God, they bring the group into His presence (rather than appearing as a "performer.")

It is the praise and worship coordinator's responsibility to work within the copyright laws as they apply to the use of copyrighted songs. (For more on this responsibility, see [Copyrights](#) in Part 2, Section 7 of this Handbook.)

THE VALUE OF PRAISE AND WORSHIP IN AGLOW

Aglow began as an organization that allowed the freedom to express praise and worship to the Lord. In many churches this is not encouraged, so over the years, those attending Aglow fellowships have enjoyed this part of the Aglow ministry. It has been said that praise is like a *doorway* into God's presence and that worship is a *response* to being there. This is a special time of fellowship with the Lord, ministering to Him and receiving ministry from Him.

Praise and worship will be different from nation to nation and from group to group, but it is awesome to experience the same flow of the Spirit in Aglow's everywhere. In this handbook, we do not presume to be able to describe all that may take place during praise and worship times. As the Spirit moves and pours out new anointing, it is not realistic to write a list of "how to's" on the subject. True praise and worship should never be a formula to be followed religiously at each Aglow meeting. Our desire here, instead, is to give you some helpful hints and to encourage you to commit this vital part of your Aglow ministry to the Lord, to be all that He would have it to be.

Praise and worship time is an expression of the human heart to the most holy God. It is a powerful time which includes songs of *petition* (the lifting of hands and hearts), *praise* in any form (including instruments, clapping, dancing, shouting, etc.) and songs of *worship* that take us into the very throne room of God. Generally, praise songs, which are *about* God, are different from worship songs, which are *to* God.

Jesus mentioned worship in John 4:23-24, The Amplified Bible:

"A time will come, however, indeed it is already here, when the true (genuine) worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth (reality); for the Father is seeking just such people as these as His worshippers. God is a Spirit (a spiritual Being) and those who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth (reality)."

BEFORE THE PUBLIC MEETING...

This is an especially important time for those involved with leading praise and worship. A ministry coordinator may be chosen to head up this ministry, or it may be done by an executive board member.

The worship leader will want to work closely with the accompanist and/or worship team in all aspects of preparation, and they will need to minister in cooperation with the president also. Rather than moving independently, the worship leader is to be part of the team who is ministering. God's anointing is released as the group is one united vessel used to pour out the Holy Spirit.

The leader should prayerfully plan what they will do with the time available for praise and worship at the Aglow meeting. Usually this time is about *15 minutes*, but it varies depending on the meeting. In fact, there may be some public meetings where praise and worship is minimal or very limited because of the *purpose of the meeting* as well as special times when a praise and worship time is featured at a meeting instead of a speaker.

Practically speaking, the praise and worship leader is responsible to see that all necessary equipment and words to songs are ready prior to the public meeting. This may require that a computer with Power Point is available along with a microphone. The worship leader, and those assisting on the worship team, will need to come early to the meeting to be sure things are all ready and to pray together before the meeting begins.

DURING THE MEETING...

During the praise and worship time, the leader (in cooperation with the president) needs to be sensitive to what the Spirit is saying and to how the people are responding. For the sake of those new to Aglow, they (or the president) might share a few Scriptures or a brief explanation about clapping, dancing, raising hands, etc., but there should not be a teaching at this time. Basically, worship time is not the time to preach or testify. Perhaps a Scripture or a few words could be said, but the leader must be careful not to break the flow of the Spirit with extra talking.

The praise and worship leader, as well as the board, should be able to sense and encourage a *flow of the Spirit* as God would lead during praise and worship time. Moreover, those leading the meeting should know how to keep praise and worship from being interrupted and when to end the singing time. If God leads into ministry for salvation, baptism in the Holy Spirit, or such during the worship time, the executive board should respond. The worship leader must truly enter into worship, at the same time staying sensitive to God's direction and the needs of the group. Sometimes God may call for changes in songs, so it is good for the leader to come prepared with a list of additional songs. The key words are, "Stay in tune and be flexible."

God will anoint His praise and worship leaders and inhabit the praises of His people. *Let all the praises from Aglow fellowships around the world rise to the throne room as a sweet fragrance to our King!*

PUBLICATIONS

The focus of the publications ministry is to provide Aglow members with a source of approved literature pertaining to the Christian walk and items to distribute in evangelistic efforts. The coordinator displays Aglow information and literature at public meetings on an attractive display table and may stimulate interest in books with a 1-2 minute talk during the meeting.

The publications coordinator works with the executive board on all matters involving decisions (such as the selection of books) and on finances.

Being familiar with the content of Aglow-approved literature as well as prices, ordering procedures, etc., the publications coordinator encourages people to make use of the Christian resources that are available. They regularly check the Aglow website for new releases of publications/teachings by Aglow authors/leaders. They are also aware of the needs of the people in the fellowship, including the need for translated literature for people in the community who speak another language.

Newcomer's packets may be assembled to include a few samples of Aglow literature which tell people about the ministry, and host/hostesses may want to give these items to first-time guests at Aglow meetings. It is also good to remind people that publications may be given as gifts to friends and relatives or placed in public places like beauty or barber shops, hospitals, nursing homes, (with permission if necessary.)

The publications coordinator may also select a DVD/CD helper to be in charge of all that is involved with recording a speaker's message and later the sale or borrowing of Aglow DVD/CDs.

Those working with publications may also have literature evangelism on their hearts, such as door-to-door witnessing with evangelistic tracts or hosting an Aglow booth at fairs, where small literature items are given away. This is a good way to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and also to spread the word about Aglow.

PUBLICITY

A publicity coordinator focuses on the release of information that will attract public interest and promote the ministry of Aglow in the community. All efforts must reflect the love of Jesus and the character of the local Aglow. Publicity efforts include: sending out email blasts, mailing out invitations, making telephone calls, putting up posters in public places, contacting news media (newspapers, radio, and television), etc. Spreading the word about Aglow to public officials and pastors is often a key publicity measure, and this can be done by inviting them to be special guests or in other creative ways. It is possible to publicize smaller group meetings (Bible studies and prayer groups) as well as larger meetings.

BIBLE STUDY GROUPS

In a small group, people can find security and comfort in God through fellowship, prayer support and exploring scriptures with others. A Bible study group is just such a place. *Bible studies are where one can learn about salvation and the Christian life and find regular fellowship, ministry and prayer support.* The Bible study coordinator oversees all the Bible studies set up within an Aglow group. *Their focus is to provide opportunities for spiritual growth and the study of God's Word through approved Bible studies and to recommend qualified teachers.*

The coordinator may or may not be a teacher themselves; they organize, oversee, and encourage needed studies and participation. (See the following paragraph regarding teachers' qualifications.) Bible study teachers need not have a Bible degree, but they do need to know God and to love His Word, being able to generate this interest in others. They also need to be approved by the executive board as teachers. They should be good facilitators for the group and able to involve everyone in discussion.

AGLOW TEACHERS' AND LEADERS' QUALIFICATIONS:

All Bible study teachers, as well as prayer group leaders, should be *approved by the executive board* and able to minister salvation and the baptism in the Holy Spirit. To be approved they should meet the *qualifications of a ministry coordinator*. All literature used in Bible studies should be Aglow's or approved by the National Board or the leadership for your nation. We encourage the use of Aglow Bible studies and prayer materials whenever **possible**. See the website www.aglow.org for materials to download.

PRAYER AND INTERCESSION GROUPS

The local prayer coordinator's focus is to encourage and support those in the ministry of prayer. They may organize one or more small prayer groups and/or prayer chains using email/text messaging in an emergency situation. Prayers may be based on personal, city-wide, national, or international needs. We encourage you to pray over the headlines! A key part of the prayer network linking Aglow worldwide, they look to the executive board for oversight and work with the prayer coordinator for your nation if there is one. See [Leadership Helps](#) for information on Aglow's prayer thrust, including prayer and intercession groups and prayer teams.

The prayer coordinator motivates the members of the fellowship to pursue a more active prayer life. Of course, wisdom and confidentiality must be used when talking and praying with people, and they should themselves be given to prayer and fasting. At prayer meetings they may share testimonies of answered prayer, receive prayer requests and organize group prayer for one another.

NOTE: Although the local prayer coordinator may serve as the prayer team leader during public meetings, this area of ministry is usually handled by the executive board. The local prayer coordinator is part of the full board. The qualifications for an Aglow prayer group leader are the same as those for Bible study teachers. See explanation above.

AGLOW MINISTRIES REACHING THE COMMUNITY

Bible studies and prayer groups are ministries that may affect the community as well as the fellowship group. These small groups are always open to people who are not yet involved in Aglow. However, there are other ministry opportunities that impact the community even more directly. As we focus on the ongoing needs of women, men as well as the generations and seek the Lord for His plan or strategy to meet these needs, new Aglow ministries will emerge.

The following are a few community outreach ministries that have been in Aglow over the years, but be open to other creative ideas the Lord may give you to reach out to your community.

MINISTRY TO CHILDREN

This ministry focuses on the needs of children, seeing them as close to the heart of God and worthy of great investment. It may include everything from visiting orphanages to arranging for child care at public meetings. Many local Aglow groups have moved away from offering child care at their meetings. But we encourage you to offer child care so that more young moms can attend your meetings. This is an important way to allow young women to get involved with Aglow.

By providing child care, there is also an opportunity to minister to small children through a special time of reading, telling, or acting out Bible stories, using Christian films, having puppet shows, learning songs, as well as offering an arts and crafts time. Included in each session should be mention of who Jesus is and how each person can ask Him into his or her heart.

Public outreach events, especially for children, are also ways to reach others in the community. When public puppet shows or picnics in the park are given for children, mothers always attend and a message about Aglow may be given. It is important to carefully work within the laws of your nation and with executive board approval when planning activities for children. Again, a rule of thumb for ministry is for men to minister to men and women to minister to women.

AGLOW GENERATIONS

Aglow Generations is a community oriented project of people, in love with Christ and rooted in His love. Generations Groups range in age from young kids to age 35 who gather monthly to have Godly fellowship and use their talents to interact with their community. As an integral part of Aglow International, they represent fresh, new growth in spiritual ground that has been tilled for over 45 years. Their primary focus is found in Ephesians 3:17-19 – to be young people rooted in Christ’s love.

Groups also have the opportunity to join with other Aglow International groups and thereby benefit from the support and co-mentoring of believers from multiple generations. They can connect with other Aglow men and women in multiple ways: meet with Aglow groups in their Area, attend Area retreats or Regional Gatherings, attend Aglow’s annual Conference, go on a Transformation Trip or Aglow’s annual Israel trip. As a result, members are equipped to grow in faith, wisdom, and maturity and bring that growth to their schools, communities, families, and their world.

When there is interest in starting a Generations Group in your community; communicate with a local Lighthouse/Candlelight group, area team, regional or national leaders; whomever you have a relationship with. If you do not have relationships with anyone in Aglow, send a request to generations@aglow.org and you will be put in contact with a leader in your area, region, or nation. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Aglow International by phone 425-775-7282 or e-mail. (The [Aglow Generations Guidelines](#) and [Affiliation forms](#) are located in Part 1, Section 2 of this handbook)

MINISTRY TO THE ELDERLY

Those who develop this ministry have an interest in problems the elderly face, enjoying visiting with them in private homes, retirement centers, or nursing (convalescent) centers. Sometimes group activities and programs are planned, but often it is the one-on-one fellowship that brings a sparkle to the eyes of a lonely person. Perhaps the most significant need is met as someone lends a listening heart to a senior citizen. Inviting them to go on a special outing, reading to them, or playing a board or card game with them can mean a lot.

Everyone loves to be remembered through cards, gifts, and prayers; these are tokens of friendship and demonstrations of God's love. There may also be ways to meet personal needs such as offering hair styling/manicuring for women, or haircuts and nail trimming for men, etc. and practical needs like house cleaning and trips to the store when ministering to the elderly.

HOSPITAL MINISTRY

This ministry is birthed from a compassion for the sick and a desire to help them in some way. It may include praying for them and sharing Jesus as Savior and Healer, or it may just be a friendly time of fellowship and caring. When entering any institution, it is important to comply with the hospital regulations and to be sensitive to the needs of the patients. Remember you are there to offer a listening ear, comfort and support to patients, trusting the Holy Spirit to lead in conversation and ministry. With hospital permission, consider leaving Aglow literature in the waiting room, lounges, or with individual patients.

PRISON/JAIL MINISTRY

This ministry can bring hope to those who may be facing seemingly hopeless situations. It offers prayer support and friendship to those who are not free to enjoy the life we often take for granted. The coordinator for this ministry must be a mature Christian, called by God to minister in this way, working closely with the chaplain and prison or jail officials. The ministry may include a Bible study, chapel services, Christian films and literature, as well as friendly visits to inmates (men to men, and women to women).

For women's fellowships, a special facet of this ministry may involve a ministry to the mothers or wives of male inmates. As with all ministries that involve public institutions, it is important that prison ministries be developed through the proper channels.

NOTE: A prison ministry manual has been written for use in the U.S. although you may glean some helpful tips for use in your nation. Contact the Aglow Global Field Office - International for more information.

As you can see from the preceding descriptions, there are numerous different ways to serve the Lord and your community through Aglow. We have only touched on a few of the more common ministries in Aglow, trusting the Holy Spirit to raise up new and vibrant ways to pour out God's love on this earth. We purposely kept our descriptions brief, so that you would have a few general suggestions without feeling limited to a set plan for your special ministries. May God bless each one who give themselves to be our Lord's hands and feet extended.

SECTION 7: SOME PRACTICAL MATTERS

INTRODUCTION TO THIS SECTION...

We hope this handbook provides you with much helpful and inspirational information on what it means to have an Aglow group and how it works. Since this handbook is used in a variety of different nations, we have tried to include only the basic information that should be the same all over the world.

The following pages briefly describe key elements you will want to consider in carrying out the Aglow ministry. If you need help or information beyond what has been provided in this handbook, we encourage you to contact your area, national, or international leadership for further help.

TYPES OF MEETINGS IN AGLOW

In order to discover God's strategy for reaching the people of your community, it is important that the *Executive Board* meet together on a regular basis. This strategizing is a principal part of the monthly board meeting that is to be held by the executive officers. Also once a month there should be a *full board meeting*, where the *Ministry Coordinators* meet together with the *Executive Board* to fellowship, discuss plans, and pray together.

THE LOCAL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING...

This meeting gives the Aglow officers the opportunity to pray, evaluate and make final decisions after having received input from others on the full board. At these meetings, the board members should work together as a team, with no one officer (including the president) making decisions independently.

A *simple agenda* will help the leader conduct the meetings in an efficient manner. There should be a balance between praise and worship, prayer, fellowship, and business. Board meetings are a good place to become comfortable with the manifestation of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. If the leaders are moving in these gifts in a small group, they will become more comfortable with releasing their spiritual gifts at public meetings.

Concerning *business*, this meeting should include approval of minutes of the previous meeting, board approval of all money to be spent (which should always be recorded in each month's minutes), and discussion, evaluation, and decision-making on a variety of subjects. Details for the public meetings should be discussed at these meetings, including: theme, decorations, speaker, music, time limits, and *who* is to do *what*. An adequate number of host/hostesses should be anticipated, as well as an anointed worship leader or worship team. The executive board members should serve as the prayer team during ministry times.

One key subject for discussion and decision is the choice of a speaker for the monthly public meeting. The following should be considered in this selection:

GUIDELINES FOR CHOOSING A SPEAKER

While it is not always necessary to have a speaker at an outreach meeting, this section will help your team when you do invite a guest to speak. The Local Executive Board bears responsibility and has spiritual authority for the outreach meeting. The speaker is an invited guest who comes alongside the board to fulfill the plan God has entrusted to them. Show them the same hospitality that you would expect to be shown.

GUIDELINES

- Every speaker must be a born-again believer in the Lord Jesus Christ and in agreement with Aglow's statement of belief.
- Most Aglow speakers have been baptized in the Holy Spirit, but occasionally someone who does not speak in tongues (but who believes in the gifts of the Spirit) may be asked to share with the group.
- Because Aglow is predominantly a woman to woman or man to man ministry, speakers should be predominantly women for women's groups and men for men's groups. It is permissible to invite one or two male speakers per year. (In Aglow for Men, the reverse would be true. The majority of speakers would be male. In Couples Aglow, speakers would be either men or women.)
- Be sure what is taught is scriptural.
- To provide a greater awareness and fresh vision of the ministry of Aglow and our relevance in the world today, consider inviting leadership from the Area team, a National Board or Regional Committee Member or a qualified speaker from the Global Headquarters if this is a possibility.
- Have a speaker who is comfortable giving a teaching testimony. Christian truth interwoven with personal examples of God's workings in their lives will touch common areas in the hearts of women and men.
- Have a variety of speakers throughout the year. Your goal is not only to minister to Christians, but to provide topics that would draw the lost and hurting.
- Before you invite someone you do not know, check with advisors and/or your national or area leader.

LOCAL BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

Once the speaker has accepted the invitation to speak, the President should ask for a biography and a current photograph. Any non-digital picture should be returned to the speaker along with a copy of the publicity announcing the meeting.

- Give your speaker clear direction to help them fulfill the meeting emphasis your board has chosen. If you have a theme, inform them.
- Roll out the welcome mat for your speaker. Treat them as your special guest. Be attentive to their needs. Keep them well-informed of changes. Honor and enjoy them.
- Before the meeting, the President should confirm with the speaker:
 - The time they have to speak (between 45 minutes to one hour)
 - Who will give the invitation for salvation, baptism in the Holy Spirit. (You should always present an opportunity for salvation and baptism in the Holy Spirit if the speaker does not do this.)
- Provide the following for each speaker:
 - A minimum honorarium of \$100 included in a thank you note given to the speaker BEFORE they leave the meeting (If your Local Executive Board is not able to give \$100, start at \$75 and stretch your faith to give \$100 consistently.)
 - Travel expenses should be sent *before* the meeting if possible. It is separate from the honorarium. If the speaker is traveling by auto, reimburse for mileage driven.
 - Housing, if necessary, and meals
- If the meeting is recorded, provide the speaker with a complimentary recording of their message.

A speaker should never be promised a percentage of the offering. She/he should be told up front your team will be presenting her/him with a love gift.

OTHER SPEAKER INFORMATION

- Speakers may offer their books or tapes/CDs for sale on a one-time basis at the meeting.
- Speakers may NOT solicit pledges, receive their own offering, or copy names from your mailing list.

Occasionally you may get inquiries from speakers, who say, “God has told me to speak at your meeting.” Do not feel obligated to use them. You are the leaders God has placed over your Local Fellowship. He will show you the speakers you are to have. If you do consider them, check first with your Area Board, Local advisors, Regional Committee Member, or another reliable source who has heard them speak. If no one on the board has heard the speaker, request a tape or CD to hear their message before inviting them to speak.

ADVISORS MEETINGS...

The purpose of these meetings is to help advisors become acquainted with local officers and other advisors, to hear about Aglow activities and needs, offering their comments as invited. Advisors meetings should take place two or three times a year, separate from executive board meetings. (See [Local Aglow Advisors](#) for more information about advisors.)

FULL BOARD MEETINGS...

The purpose of these meetings is for all local Aglow leaders to fellowship with one another, to learn to “flow in the Spirit” together, to share reports, concerns, and ideas about the ministries, and to evaluate the public meetings. There should be a time of praise and worship and prayer included. This meeting includes the *executive board plus the coordinators* of the various ministries. *Helpers may be invited to attend, but they are not required to be in attendance* at all the meetings. This meeting should not include executive board business, but it may be held on the same day as the executive board meeting.

PUBLIC MEETINGS...

These are also known as outreach meetings and should be seen as a way to involve many people in the community in order to share the love and truth of Jesus with them. This meeting is open to all, saved and unsaved, and it usually is held once a month, at the same time and place.

When planning these meetings, as all meetings, the leadership should remember that the focus of the meeting must always be on the people attending and building relationship, not on the program itself. Of course, we always hope to reach people, but it is easy to get so caught up in the details of the program that we lose this perspective. What we need to keep in mind for all meetings is that we should prepare well and put things in order, then remain flexible and allow for the moving of the Holy Spirit. *Truly it will be the love of Jesus, manifested through the Holy Spirit in us, that will change lives, rather than our carefully planned programs.* Once again, people must always be more important than the program.

God created people with a deep need for relationship. Everything we do in Aglow should draw a picture of loving relationship, with God and with other people. *The joy of relationship should shine through every aspect of your meeting.*

Here are three simple steps to help keep your meetings people-centered:

1. Create an atmosphere of attractiveness, warmth, and personal caring.
2. Use testimonies often; encourage new people to share what God is doing in their lives.
3. Find ways to listen to and involve those attending your meeting.

Some things you may want to keep in mind in order to involve those attending are:

- Consider occasionally using a member of Aglow as a speaker.
- Use musically skilled members to do a special number.

Invite those attending to become an Aglow Global Partner. Let people know how they can get more involved and become part of a great network of Christians around the world.

ENCOURAGING LARGER GATHERINGS

A monthly local Aglow meeting may be a small and friendly group or a very large gathering with hundreds of people in attendance. It may include a meal and be held in a formal dining facility, or it may be a simple time of fellowship held outdoors. No matter what your Aglow group does on a regular basis to reach out to the people of your community, you will also want to make your fellowship aware of even larger gatherings that take place in Aglow on area, national, and international levels. Each type of gathering is unique and a special opportunity for individuals to come together in the Lord. (Hebrews 10:24-25 Amplified Bible)

LOCAL LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT...

It is recommended that twice a year the national or area leaders hold a special one-day (or half-a-day) of leadership development which is a requirement for all local officers. This type of gathering is also open for those interested in serving in Aglow in any capacity (including ministry coordinators and helpers.) This event may include individuals from several local Aglow's. These meetings vary in purpose and content depending upon the needs of the leaders (i.e. new group training, teaching on using spiritual gifts, etc.) Please contact your leaders with leadership development suggestions you may have.

AREA RETREATS...

Area boards oversee a number of local Aglow's in a certain area and work closely with them and the national leadership for the nation. From time to time (usually once or twice a year), a special retreat is planned and all Aglow members and their guests are invited to come together for a time of inspiration and fellowship. There usually is a guest speaker as well as praise and worship, and the event often involves more than one day.

NATIONAL OR REGIONAL CONFERENCES...

This event (usually held on even-numbered years) is similar to a retreat but on a larger scale. It is planned by the national leaders in a country (or countries), and people from all over the surrounding area are invited. One or more speakers are invited and there are times of praise and worship and possibly workshops on key subjects. Women, men and teens are all included and can attend this special event, which may last 2-4 days. It is usually held at a hotel or convention center, and many people who have not yet been involved with Aglow are encouraged to attend and see what God is doing through this ministry.

GLOBAL CONFERENCES...

Held on the odd-numbered years and hosted by the Aglow International headquarters, a worldwide conference is a very large event with up to 10,000 in attendance from all nations of the world. A parade of flags representing all the nations where we have Aglow begins the festivities, and there are speakers and times of praise and worship to bless all who attend. Although each conference is based on a different theme and includes different activities, this is always an excellent opportunity to see the larger scope of the Aglow ministry and to get excited about being a part of a worldwide network of caring and praying women and men.

PROCEDURES TO FOLLOW

There are a few basic procedures that need to be followed in order for Aglow to work smoothly. In addition to the steps mentioned elsewhere in this handbook (i.e. steps to choosing officers, etc.), we think it important to discuss the areas of affiliations, membership, literature, and copyrights. Possibly the leadership for your nation will instruct you further regarding some procedures that are unique to your area of the world. The following, however, are basic procedures that apply to Aglow groups everywhere.

AFFILIATING AND TERMINATING AGLOW GROUPS...

For more information on [how to start an Aglow group](#), see Part One, Sections 2 and 3 of the handbook which will guide you through the affiliation process for your group. Please keep in mind that each Aglow group will be affiliated under the name of the town or city where it is located; this helps us let interested people know where we have Aglow.

An Aglow group is affiliated after the necessary paperwork is received and approved. This paperwork includes one [Application for Affiliation](#), and a [Leadership Questionnaire](#) for each executive board officer. (These forms are located in Part One, Section 2 of this handbook) The paperwork must be *complete*, including signatures of national leaders and advisors, before the affiliation process is done. Once it is, you will receive a certificate of affiliation that welcomes you officially into the ministry of Aglow.

If your group is not able to continue for some reason, it is important that you discuss the situation thoroughly with your leadership before taking any action. There are possibly alternatives that can be taken to keep the ministry going, or perhaps the group will only need to be temporarily inactive instead of closed. Please be sure to contact your leadership before making announcements to the members of your fellowship. If the Aglow group needs to close, any financial indebtedness will need to be settled by the executive board, as they are responsible for the finances of the Aglow. The treasury should be turned over to the national or area leadership that oversees the group.

ORDERING/SELLING AGLOW MATERIALS...

The national leadership for your Aglow should be able to help you with the best way to purchase Aglow literature in your nation. Specific procedures vary from nation to nation, from language to language. For more information on the literature available please go to Aglow's e-store at www.aglow.org, or contact:

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TRANSLATING/PRINTING AGLOW LITERATURE...

While some Aglow literature has been translated into over 40 different languages, most Aglow literature produced by the Aglow International headquarters is available in English, French and Spanish and now Portuguese. To find out if material is available in your language, contact the Global Field Office – International at Aglow headquarters.

If you desire to translate Aglow literature into a language other than those mentioned above, please contact the Aglow headquarters *before beginning any work*. (See the [Copyright information](#) in Section 7.) Sometimes there are specific details that need to be discussed, so it is important to contact the Aglow Global Field Office - International at Aglow Headquarters.

MEMBERSHIP IN AGLOW – AGLOW GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP

On April 1, 2015 the Aglow Global Partnership program began. Membership throughout the affiliated nations of Aglow will be called **Global Partnership**. Paying the partnership fee in your nation makes the person a member of the global ministry of Aglow International as well as a member of Aglow within your nation and your local fellowship.

The Global Partnership fee collected will be an amount determined by the Aglow national leadership for your nation. Your Aglow national leaders will also determine the distribution of the fee, between your local group and the national leadership, to be used to help fund the ministry in your nation. Your National leadership will send 10% of the total partnership fees collected, to Aglow headquarters in Edmonds Washington, U.S.A. to help support the apostolic vision-center of the ministry. Partnership is for a period of one year, and then renewed.

Becoming an Aglow partner means becoming a part of Aglow’s ministry to people of all ages, races, and cultures. Because partnership is a sign of commitment, a helpful criteria for finding leadership, and a tangible way of supporting the ministry and linking Aglow individuals across the world, partnership should be offered in every nation except where legally or culturally prohibited.

In order to encourage partnership in Aglow, the local executive board must understand its value and promote the opportunity. The secretary is usually responsible for keeping partnership records; (See Part 1, Section 4 for the [secretary’s responsibilities](#) and Part 2, Section 7 for the [partnership form](#) to photocopy)

The leadership you relate to (area, national, or international) will explain how Aglow Global Partnership is to be handled in your local Aglow. For example: one third of the membership fee that is collected could be kept in the local Aglow’s treasury and two thirds could be sent to your leadership (to be used for Aglow expenses in your nation.)

NOTE: Every local executive board member and ministry coordinator is to be a partner of Aglow, and the idea of partnership should be presented to the entire Aglow fellowship from time to time.



USE OF AGLOW LOGO...

The Aglow logo (above) is a registered trademark. To protect the integrity of our trademark, it may be used only for Aglow purposes and must be reproduced in the terra-cotta color, or in black or white. What does that mean exactly? You may use it for publicity purposes (i.e., an Aglow meeting flyer, an Aglow newsletter, etc.) You should use only the official registered logo on items like these. Aglow's logo cannot be used in conjunction with personal ministry or for the purpose of personal gain. Before using it on any item you produce to sell, including stationery, cookbooks or other books, clothing or accessories (i.e. key chains, mugs, etc.) special permission must be given. Contact your national Aglow leaders with details of your project and they will request the necessary permission from Aglow headquarters.

Your Aglow group may only use the logo after you have been officially affiliated.

RESPECTING COPYRIGHTS INTERNATIONALLY...

Since Aglow is a worldwide organization that must meet certain legal responsibilities, it is essential that Aglow members everywhere be accountable in the area of copyrights. The rights to copy or reproduce in another form any piece of literature or the words to any song need to be considered in order to avoid doing something against international law.

Copyright laws may differ from nation to nation, but there is an international system that protects the work of writers all over the world. Aglow groups in every town and nation need to look into this matter and abide by their nation's laws as well as the international copyright laws.

Copyright applies to both music and literature. If an item belongs to Aglow (i.e. no author's name is mentioned), it may be copied to be used within the Aglow ministry. If an item belongs to an author or an artist, that person will need to be asked for permission.

In general, here are a few guidelines to remember:

1. Do not duplicate copyrighted music (printed song sheets or recordings of any kind) unless you have obtained written permission from the holders of the copyright. This includes photocopying sheet music.
2. Copyright law does allow you to display a single copy of a copyrighted work during a worship service or religious assembly. To use a song during praise and worship, you may copy the words onto a single transparency, blackboard, or large sheet of paper. This is considered "fair use," and does not violate the law. But under no circumstances can anyone make copies of that single copy to be distributed or given to someone else (i.e., song sheets, song books, etc.)
3. Do not audio tape or video tape and sell any copyrighted music unless you've obtained permission from the holders of the copyright. (Most praise and worship songs are copyrighted.) Unless you have permission from the holders of the copyright, you should not tape the praise and worship portion of your public meetings or any vocal or instrumental music.

NOTE: It is legal to tape praise and worship music for personal use if the tapes are not duplicated. For example, if someone brings their tape recorder/CD player to your meeting and tapes the songs so they can learn them at home, that is fine.

4. Concerning printed material, fair use allows you to use brief quotations, for discussion and illustration, without permission. You are permitted to use one line from a poem or song, twenty-five words from a prose drama or short prose work, and up to five hundred words from a larger prose work. If you are doing a flyer, for example, you can reprint the quote without permission, but you should give the source of the quote as well.

NOTE: If you have questions on this area, please consult with an authority in your nation or be in contact with the Aglow Global Headquarters.

SECTION 8: LEADERSHIP HELPS

PRAYER

As one of the largest global prayer networks, Aglow mobilizes millions of people to pray. Led by the Holy Spirit, the Aglow prayer network attracts the Presence and power of God to bring the resources of heaven into significant global issues. Aglow is also a relational network of praying people who pray for the personal needs of one another. You are a key part of this prayer movement! More information is available at www.aglow.org.

THE CALL TO PRAYER

Prayer is an important aspect of Aglow International. Individually, prayer is a basis for growing in personal relationship with God as we converse with Him and listen to the heart of the Father. In our Aglow groups, prayer is the foundation of everything we do as we seek God for His clear direction for ministry and celebrate His Presence. Globally, we bring the atmosphere and intentions of heaven to earth as we pray, “Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”

There are many opportunities and expressions of prayer in Aglow International.

PRAYER FOR ONE ANOTHER

- Pray in agreement with God’s Word for the personal needs of friends and family that come to your attention (Matthew 18:19). Praying for one another is a way we “carry each other’s burdens” (Galatians 6:2).
- Pray for the goodness and power of God to heal those who are sick (Luke 4:40; Mark 16:18). Pray and believe for God’s provision (Philippians 4:19).
- Celebrate the greatness of God and the resources of heaven as more than enough to meet the need (Ephesians 3:20).

PRAYER FOR YOUR AGLOW GROUP AND YOUR COMMUNITY

- Pray for your local Aglow leaders. Pray for wisdom, strength and vision as they lead the group.
- Pray for strategies and creativity to reach the people of your community. Ask God to show you how to reach out to bring freedom empowerment and all that God is releasing from heaven.
- Proclaim the Vision and Mission of Aglow International for your Aglow group and the people of your community.

PRAYER FOR YOUR NATION

- Pray for your national Aglow leaders. Pray for wisdom, strength and vision as they lead Aglow in your nation. Agree in prayer with the prayer strategies you receive from your Aglow national leaders.
- Pray for your government leaders according to I Timothy 2:1-2.
- Proclaim that the power of God’s Presence in you brings an atmosphere of goodness, blessing, restoration and worship throughout your nation. Pray that the Light of Christ is released through you nation to dispel darkness and bring God’s goodness in your nation.
- Pray for headlines. Pray for current issues in your community, nation and the world.

GLOBAL PRAYER

- Pray for the worldwide ministry of Aglow International, including the worldwide leaders. Proclaim the fulfillment of the vision and mission of the ministry. Pray for Aglow groups to be established in every nation of the world. Go to www.aglowglobalprayer.org for specific prayer information about every nation.
- View current urgent issues in the world through God's Majesty and proclaim His intentions in the earth.
- Pray for people to come into the fullness of Christ in their lives. Pray they are restored to a radiant place of relationship with God and one another.
- Proclaim the truth of the Kingdom that breaks the tyranny of oppression and brings freedom and empowerment.

PRAYER FOR ISRAEL

- Pray for the peace of Jerusalem and pray for blessing upon the land and people of Israel as mandated in the Bible (Psalm 122:6; Genesis 12:3).
- Proclaim the prophetic destiny of Israel and the Jewish people.
- Day to Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem – This takes place the first Sunday of October each year. Aglow International networks with many ministries each year to pray for the peace of Jerusalem on the first Sunday of October. For more information go to www.aglow.org.

PRAYER FOR MUSLIMS

- God has given Aglow International a mandate for the Muslim people. Pray that these followers of the Islamic religion receive the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and come to know the love of our Father.
- Ask God to supernaturally reveal Himself to those who are sincerely seeking the truth.
- Pray for legislation that opens the door to Christian evangelism, both in Muslim and non-Muslim nations.
- Pray for protection for those in all nations affected by Islamic "holy war" or jihad.
- Proclaim that the marvelous Name of Jesus is above every name. Jesus is Lord!

PRAYER GROUPS

As local prayer groups link together in each community and nation around the world, they form a huge global network of prayer. This powerful force of prayer undergirds the Aglow ministry, releases God's will on earth as it is in heaven, and demonstrates the power of Heaven in the darkest places of earth.

We all have access to heaven's resources through prayer, and we all need to have regular personal fellowship with the Lord individually. This is where we gain deep relationship with the Lord, learn to hear His voice and develop a joyful life as an overcomer in all of life's circumstances.

The Bible also encourages us to come together to pray in groups. Psalm 133 tells us that the Lord commands a special blessing when we come together in unity. Matthew 18:19-20 speaks of the promise of answered prayer when we pray together. This passage also reminds us that Christ is Present with us. We are strengthened when we agree together in prayer (Ecclesiastes 4:12). According to Deuteronomy 32:30, with God one believer can put one thousand to flight and two can chase ten thousand. Praying in groups can have powerful results.

PRAYER MEETINGS

There are different types of prayer meetings. Ask the Lord to show you the best way to gather people together in your Aglow group for prayer. You might meet together weekly or monthly for prayer. You may have small groups "meet" together for prayer on a conference call on the phone. Or if several people work in the same part of the city, they meet for a few minutes at lunchtime once a week for prayer. Prayer groups may have two or three people or a hundred or more attending. Meeting together for prayer is more important than the size of the group.

You may meet at someone's home or wherever you find a quiet, private place for prayer. The group leader should see that the prayer meeting begins and ends on time. The leader should also keep the prayer focused and on track with a sensitivity to flow with the Holy Spirit as He leads the direction for prayer.

Information should be provided at the Aglow public meetings regarding where and when prayer groups meet. There is room for everyone in a prayer group from the most experienced intercessor to the new believer who is just learning to pray. Everyone should have the opportunity to pray. The group leader should avoid monopolizing the prayer time and should tactfully discourage others from doing so, too.

Seek the Holy Spirit for His direction for prayer so that you pray in agreement with the heart and will of God and what He says in His Word. Intersperse worship during your prayer time. This will help the group focus on the majesty of God and pray from a heaven's perspective rather. Worship helps us not to become weary or overwhelmed with the heaviness of the needs as we pray.

FOCUSED PRAYER GROUPS

You may want to form some prayer groups to focus on a very specific purpose. These groups will serve a unique need in prayer and may not be as large as a general prayer meeting. People in these groups should also try to meet with the larger prayer meeting within Aglow in your community.

- Emergency needs – This group should be prepared to handle emergency requests for prayer. Your prayer leader should develop an easy way to notify intercessors when a request like this comes through. One way is to set up a telephone prayer chain. Another way is to send an email or text message to alert the intercessors to an emergency need. Use the method that works best for your group.
- Prayer Scouting – This group goes out to pray or “scout” out your community. A prayer scouting group may sit in a public place and pray quietly for the people who pass by or the businesses in the community. They may walk or drive the streets asking the Lord to show them where He wants to minister to people and bless them. This group may walk or drive an area where an outreach is planned to pray for God to bring freedom to people and harvest for the kingdom of heaven.
- Specific concerns – Prayer groups may be formed to pray specifically for schools, the government, political elections, businesses, special events, conferences or outreach meetings.
- Capital Prayer – Aglow International has a specific call to pray that the Majesty of God will be known in the seat of government of every nation. If you live in or near your nation’s capital city, you may form a group to prayer walk or drive through the capital city. If you have a heart to pray for your nation, you may form a capital prayer group to pray specifically for the government of your nation. Go to www.aglow.org for “How to Pray for Your Nation”.
- Men of Issachar – This is a prayer focus for men in Aglow International. Men may become part of this network of prayer by enlisting on the Aglow International website www.aglow.org. Special prayer points for Men of Issachar are posted on the website and the Global Prayer Target each month.

NOTE: When appropriate, report some answers to prayer to your local Aglow public meeting. Such testimonies are faith-building and encourage others to become part of a prayer group. (Remember not to reveal specific names unless you have permission.) Also, please take a few minutes to write up testimonies of what God has done through Aglow and send them to your national or international leadership. What a blessing to hear how God is answering prayer all over the world!

MINISTERING TO PEOPLE THROUGH PRAYER

Prayer ministry in a local Aglow provides a means for individuals to receive personal prayer regarding their needs and concerns. In His ministry on earth, Jesus took time to minister to the personal needs of people individually. He has called us to do that, too. We pray for all the provision of God to be released in the area of need in people's lives: healing, finances, jobs, reconciliation in relationship, restoration, salvation, deliverance, emotional pain – God has provision for all our needs.

Aglow prayer teams do not take the place of experienced counselors as we do not attempt in-depth counseling. Our call is to minister the love and wisdom of God through His Word and the gifts of the Holy Spirit by offering prayer support.

- When possible, minister in teams of two or three. Prayer teams should be made up of people who are mature, loving Christians, able to pray based on the Scriptures. Prayer team members may be members of the present executive board, former officers, ministry coordinators, or others from within the fellowship. If prayer team members are not Aglow leaders, they should meet the basic ministry coordinator's qualifications although they are not to attend board meetings.
- Be prepared to pray for a variety of needs. Be prepared to introduce people to Jesus and lead them into salvation. Be prepared to pray with people to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit.
- Depend on the Holy Spirit and the Word of God as you pray. We are there to partner with what Jesus is doing in someone's life. Expect God to meet the need, and expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit to minister through you.
- The most important thing for someone in need to know is that God loves them. Love delivers from fear, rejection and other torments. Love turns someone's focus from the crisis of their need toward the power of God's resources.
- Remember that God relates to us in the present and draws us to the future. Help this person move from focusing on the past to receiving the love and goodness of the Lord in the present. Then, pray for hope and expectancy that draws them upward towards God's promises for the future. Proclaim God's intentions for this person. Proclaim His goodness, His plans, His promises and who He is for them in their current situation.
- For more on ministering to people through prayer, go to www.aglow.org

IMPORTANT KEYS TO REMEMBER AS YOU PRAY

➤ **Pray with expectancy in the limitless favor of God**

“Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think according to the power that works within us” – Ephesians 3:20

➤ **Pray through the majesty of God**

When our focus is on the majesty of God, we see who God is for us in our present circumstance that He could not be in any other situation. Even when we are in a crisis we can worship the supreme sovereignty of God and celebrate His greatness. We realize that God’s favor is extended towards us beyond measure because of His great love, goodness and grace.

➤ **Pray as a new creation**

Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.” – II Corinthians 5:17. Also, see Galatians 2 and 5, Ephesians 4, Colossians 3
God relates to us in the present and draws us towards the future. Therefore, we should not relive the past every time we pray. Do not dig up old issues that have been crucified with Christ. Instead, we can pray with confidence that God is with us in the present circumstance with all the power of and resources of heaven. We can proclaim the promises of God to lead us joyfully into the future.

➤ **Pray as a beloved bride**

“You have ravished my heart, my sister, my spouse. You have ravished my heart with one look of your eyes” – Song of Solomon 4:9

When we pray, our voice is music to God’s ears. We have His full attention and delight. It is His joy to lavish His favor upon us as it delights a bridegroom to lavish special favor upon his bride. As His bride, we pray expecting God’s love, grace and goodness to be lavished upon us.

➤ **Pray from a place of habitation**

“Christ in you, the hope of glory” – Colossians 1:27

“Your life is hidden with Christ in God” – Colossians 3:3

Before the cross, the Spirit of God visited His people with His presence and power. At that time, people needed to cry out and ask God to come and visit them in their need. After the cross, we have become the habitation of God’s Presence. He never leaves us, so we can pray knowing that God hears us and is already with us in any circumstance.

➤ **Pray from a place of rest and peace**

Since the Prince of Peace lives within us, we can pray with peace in our hearts even in the most difficult circumstances.

➤ **Proclamation**

A proclamation is a powerful heaven to earth prayer as we decree on earth something that God has already established in heaven. We pray as Jesus did in Matthew 6:10, “Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”

EVANGELISM LEADS TO TRANSFORMATION

Through evangelism, we have the privilege of introducing people to the person of Jesus Christ and into a life of transformation that comes from knowing Him. Transformation is the “key” to identity! We emphasize as we lead someone to Christ that they are changing their main citizenship status. They are discovering a new and better way to live a fulfilled life and are now on a journey of discovering their God-initiated, God-empowered purpose throughout eternity. Evangelism is the launching pad to transformed lives!

For more information visit www.aglow.org.

KEEP IT SIMPLE WHEN SHARING YOUR FAITH

Some things to keep in mind:

1. I am qualified to be an ambassador for Jesus.

Because you love the Lord, you have not only been adopted, you have been automatically approved as His witness in a world starving for reality and hope. You are an ambassador for Christ (II Corinthians 5:20). He entrusts to you (and every other Christian) the awesome “message of reconciliation” (verse 18) *“that by word and deed we might aim to bring others into harmony with Him.”*

2. Salvation is a person.

It has been said that God did not send us salvation; He sent us instead His Son who died to become our salvation. A Christian is someone who has a relationship with Jesus, the Son of God Himself, as a living person. Witnessing is spreading the news that a real *relationship* with God (not just a religion) is available to all who seek to know Him personally. You are introducing them to a person – our Savior, our Lord and our best friend.

3. Must I be perfect before I can share Jesus?

As Christians we are carriers of His Presence and those people who are seeking will be drawn to Christ within us. You are the bearer of Good News! The “good news” is not about your goodness, it’s HIS! Here’s what Jesus says about you: You’re blood-bought family to Him, and even with all your imperfections and weaknesses, He’s not ashamed to call you His own. (See Hebrews 2:11).

The psalmist says in Psalm 40: *“I have told everyone the good news that you forgive people’s sins. I have not been timid about it...but have proclaimed your loving kindness and truth to all the congregation.”*

4. It is good to know some things, but not necessary to know everything.

It is good to know the basics of your faith in Jesus and be aware of some of the most common questions people ask in their search for God, but you don’t need a theological degree to share your faith. A witness is simply one who tells what she has seen, heard, and experienced.

5. Do I need to wait for a feeling of love for the lost?

It is nearly impossible for us humans to love a total stranger or an abstraction like “all the lost people” in the world. God is not seeing the world as one giant mass, but instead as individuals with particular needs and potentials. Of course, we cannot know each needy person as does the Father who created them, but because of our love for God, we can choose to love His creations.

6. Should I force myself (or Jesus) on people?

Nothing is more tense, awkward, and embarrassing than trying to force-feed the truth to someone who just is not hungry. You are not responsible to create a spiritual appetite or interest in anyone’s life. That job belongs to God. If, as a fisher of men and women, you put out the bait and the fish just don’t nibble, it is okay to move on to other things without feeling guilty or pressured. When the Holy Spirit has been at work in someone’s life and they are hungry for more, you’ll know it.

7. Do I need to find a perfect method?

It would be good to be prepared in advance with a simple, thought-out plan for how to share the good news when the opportunity presents itself. Peter tells us this is part of our responsibility as Christians. When readiness is coupled with “response-ability,” the ability to respond to the nudges and whispers of the Holy Spirit will be there in each unique situation. Relax in knowing *Who* you’re presenting (Jesus) is more important than *how*.

8. Do I need to hide from the unsaved world to be holy?

Loving and enjoying those who don’t know the Lord doesn’t mean that you endorse their beliefs or behavior. It means that you’re simply loving them as people and seeking ways to express to them the unconditional love of Jesus. Rather than isolating yourself from non-Christians, feel free to look for ways to develop friendships with them. (John 17:15)

9. Remember, I will suffer and I will succeed.

The good news is that risking disapproval, anger, and rejection from those around you for the privilege of telling them about Jesus will work wonders for your own faith. As you’re obedient, the anchor of your heart will sink deeper into the love of God and the reality of your relationship with Him will sharpen. And when someone does respond to the good news, you will experience one of life’s ultimate privileges: assisting in their eternal birth into the family of God and a brand-new life.

10. I can leave the results to God.

Some people plant the seed, some water it, others come along at the time when that seed has grown enough to be picked. So it is with witnessing. It is important to remember that the real work is being done inside a person’s heart by the Holy Spirit and that no one calls Jesus Lord unless the Holy Spirit draws him. So we each do our part and trust God that kingdom fruit will come from every seed planted or watered in His name.

IN SUMMARY, GOD WILL...

- fill your heart with love that will overflow (Romans 5:5, I John 4:19)
- fill unsaved hearts with spiritual thirst (John 16:7-11, Luke 5:8, Acts 16:29-30, Acts 2:37)
- lead you across the path of those seeking Him (John 20:21, Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15)
- give your witness power and authority (Acts 1:8, 4:31; 2 Timothy 1:7-8, Hebrews 4:12).

AND YOU CAN...

- keep enjoying and growing in your own relationship with Jesus (Colossians 2:6-7)
- pray for opportunities to share Him (Ephesians 6:18-20)
- be open and obedient to the Holy Spirit (Acts 6:10, John 15:26-27, Acts 4:31)
- know your own testimony (John 9:24-33; John 4:39; Mark 5:18-20)
- know a simple gospel presentation (I Peter 3:15, Psalm 119:11, II Timothy 2:15)
- be aware of some of the key issues facing your generation (Proverbs 24:3,4;
- I Chronicles 12:32, Colossians 4:5)
- be free to offer non-Christians your friendship (Jude 21-23; James 5:20; Luke 19:10).

MINISTERING SALVATION, THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND HEALING

HOW TO PRAY FOR SALVATION

Jesus said,

I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.
- John 14:6

1. Explain to the person that it is good to take the following steps:

- **Acknowledge** that they are sinners in need of a Savior. (Romans 3:23)
- **Repent** of past sins and turn to God. (Romans 6:23)
- **Believe** in their heart that Jesus is Lord and acknowledge that God raised Him from the dead. (Romans 10:9)

2. Ask Jesus to come into their heart and be the Savior and Lord of their life. (Acts 4:12)

3. Lead them in praying this or a similar prayer. The Holy Spirit will lead you.

“Jesus, please forgive me for every sin in my life. I believe in my heart that you died for me and I turn to you now. I invite you to come into my life and be my personal Savior and Lord. Thank you, Jesus, that you have forgiven me, and that your blood has now made me clean and holy. Help me follow you and obey you.”

4. This is our assurance from John 5:24 - Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.

Encourage them at the first opportunity to tell someone else what they have done.

Romans 10:9 - *If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.*

5. Explain to them the importance of regular fellowship with other Christians, reading the Word, spending time in prayer, and attending a local church or Bible study.

HOW TO PRAY FOR THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT...

Before Jesus returned to heaven, He promised His disciples He would send the Holy Spirit to empower them.

“I will ask the Father,” He said, “and He will give you another Counselor to be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. - John 14:16-17

On Pentecost, as the disciples were praying,

Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them - Acts 2:2-4

The baptism in the Holy Spirit is for all Christians (John 14:16).

1. Before you pray with someone for the baptism in the Holy Spirit, ask them:
 - if they have accepted Jesus as their personal Savior and been born again. If not, lead them in a salvation prayer first.
 - if they have had any involvement with the occult. If so, they should renounce it.
2. Explain that when they received Jesus, they received the Holy Spirit (John 3:5, 6).

When they are baptized in the Holy Spirit, the power or flow of the Spirit is released within them. They receive:

- God’s empowering for service (Acts 1:8)
- a special prayer language (Acts 2:2-4)
- the ability to pray according to God’s will (Romans 8:26)
- personal edification or building up (I Corinthians 14:4)

The baptism in the Holy Spirit is received by faith, just as their salvation was (Matt. 3:11, Luke 11:13).

3. Lead them to pray this or a similar prayer:

Jesus, I believe You are the Baptizer in the Holy Spirit, and I ask You to baptize me in the Holy Spirit now. Cleanse me from all unrighteousness and fill me with Your Spirit.

If they have prayed from their heart, they have now been baptized in the Holy Spirit. Encourage them to open their mouth by faith and speak the words or sounds that come to them. (Psalm 81:10) Speaking in tongues involves an act of the will. As they speak, the Holy Spirit will give the words. Encourage them to use this new prayer language frequently.

NOTE: If they have difficulty receiving a prayer language, encourage them to keep using any beginning words or sounds God has given them. Explain that many people begin with just a few words and experience an increasingly deeper release as they seek the Lord privately.

PRAYING FOR HEALING

We believe that the redemptive work of the Lord Jesus Christ provides healing for our spirit, soul, and body. Healing, both physical and emotional, has been provided for us by the cross of Jesus. God has identified Himself as our Healer, and He wants to heal us. Jesus told us to lay hands on the sick so they would recover. Prayer for healing is part of our privilege and authority as believers and followers of Jesus. God is faithful to meet all our needs, and we need to be healed. He loves us and wants us healed. Here are a few scriptures to consider as you pray for healing:

- Isaiah 53:4-5; I Peter 2:24; Matthew 8:17
- Exodus 15:26
- 3 John 2
- Mark 16:15-18
- James 5:15-16
- John 14:12-14

WHEN YOU PRAY FOR HEALING:

1. Ask what the need is so you can pray specifically.
2. Proclaim God's goodness and majesty as healer.
3. Ask the Holy Spirit how to pray. He may show you additional needs or give you a specific prophetic word to give hope, stir faith and release healing.
4. Ask for healing for the specific illness and declare His healing power.
5. If the person knows Jesus, pray to activate His healing power that is within. If the person does not know Jesus, invite them to receive salvation.
6. Thank God for His healing and celebrate Him as Healer.
7. If physical healing is not immediately evident, thank God that He who began a good work will complete it (Philippians 1:6).
8. If physical healing is immediately evident, thank God and encourage the person to share the testimony of what God has done.

FREEDOM FROM THE OCCULT

There are many ways that the enemy of our soul, that is Satan, uses to influence people, including Christians. Generational sins passed down, religious extremes, association with occult practices; all are open doors to demonic influence. When those doors are closed, many times healing occurs – both physical and spiritual.

The Bible has strong words to say about an invisible *spiritual* contaminant that causes suffering, sickness, and even death: involvement with the occult. Scripture makes it clear that Satan and evil are real. Yet many people open their hearts and lives to oppressive and destructive satanic influence.

Because the terms “occult” and “cult” can evoke strange images of black capes and cauldrons, ghosts and glassy-eyed followers, you may assume you have never had contact with things of an occult nature. But don’t be too sure: some occult objects and practices seem perfectly harmless, even socially acceptable.

GOD SAYS “NO” TO THE OCCULT

We are God’s children and for our protection and wellbeing He says “no” to all, even casual, just-for-fun experimenting with the occult. As the scriptures below show, all forms of fortune telling, spiritism and magic practices and any involvement in religious cults are condemned by Him. Such involvement breaks the first commandment (You shall have no other gods before Me), brings God’s correction, and creates spiritual fallout that can last for generations (Exodus 20:3-5)

Leviticus 19:26, 31; 20:6, 27

Zechariah 10:2

Isaiah 8:19

Deuteronomy 7:25-26; 18:9-12

Acts 8:9-10; 16:16-18; 19:19

Malachi 3:5

I Chronicles 10: 13-14

Galatians 5:16-21

Exodus 22:18

Jeremiah 27:9-10

Revelation 21:8; 22:14-15

It is Important That You Say “No” For Yourself

If you have had contact with the occult or have allowed generational or religious spirits to influence your life, you have opened a door of access to oppressing spirits. You, yourself must close those doors by faith and positive action.

- If you are a Christian, it is not possible for your spirit to be possessed by any other spirit but the Holy Spirit. But your mind, will and emotions can be deeply distressed and oppressed by satanic powers through occult involvement.
- Oppression can result from any occult contact, whether you have been a practitioner or participant, follower or spectator.
- Symptoms of occult oppression may include: inability to read and study the Bible; uncontrollable evil thoughts; blasphemous thoughts about God, Jesus or the Holy Spirit; excessive self-pity; overwhelming, unrelenting anxieties or fears; uncontrollable motions; resistance to spiritual things; religious delusions; depression; compulsive thoughts of suicide, etc.

IDENTIFYING OCCULT INVOLVEMENT

To the best of your knowledge, have you or anyone in your family history ever been involved in any of the following, either for fun, out of curiosity, or in earnest?

- Reading or following horoscopes or astrology?
- Seeking information about your fortune or futures through a crystal ball, ouija board, palm reading, tarot cards, tea leaves, etc.?
- Having a “life’ or “reincarnation reading” (who or what you supposedly were in other lives)?
- Attending a séance or spiritualist meeting?
- Consulting a medium or psychic for any reason, including locating missing objects or persons or to find water (“water witching” or “dowsing”)?
- Being involved in New Age philosophies or practices such as consulting a spirit guide, channeling spirits, etc.?
- Playing games of an occult nature, such as Dungeons and Dragons, ESP, Kabala, etc.?
- Seeking healing through charms, magic, a Christian Scientist, spiritualist, or psychic healer?
- Practicing mind over matter such as levitation or table-lifting, or telekinesis (moving objects without touching them)?
- Using a charm for protection?
- Having an occult or pagan religious object, such as a Buddha statue?
- Taking mind-altering drugs such as LSD?
- Practicing passive meditation such as transcendental meditation or putting your mind in a passive state to pray or seek guidance?
- Being hypnotized or using hypnotism?
- Practicing automatic handwriting?
- Practicing astral travel (out of body travel), telepathy (thought transmission), or other forms of extra-sensory perception?
- Reading or owning occult or spiritualist literature, such as books on angel worship, astrology or horoscopes, cosmic consciousness, clairvoyance, dianetics, eastern religions, Edgar Cayce, ESP, fortune-telling, magic, metaphysics, New Age Philosophy, psycho cibernetics, psychic phenomena, reincarnation, religious cults, Rosicrucianism, satanism, scientology, self-realization, UFOs, witchcraft, etc.?
- Listening to or playing hard rock music?
- Watching horror movies such as “The Exorcist”, “The Omen”, “Friday the 13th”, “The Craft”?
- Being involved with any form of pornography?
- Viewing or listening to immoral or excessively violent materials (movies, television, books, music)?
- Being involved in magic, witchcraft, sorcery, or the casting of spells or hexes?
- Being involved in necromancy (praying to the dead)?

HOW TO BECOME FREE

- **Confess your faith in Jesus.** “Jesus, I accept you as the Son of God and as my Lord and Savior. I believe that Your blood has the power to set me free from all Satan’s power.” Even if you have already accepted Jesus once in your life, now is the time to reaffirm your faith.
- **Confess your sin.** Each area of known occult involvement should be confessed. Your prayer might be: “God, I confess that I have sinned against You by (name specific involvement, for example: reading your horoscope).
- **Renounce Satan.** For example: “Lord Jesus, I renounce Satan and all his works in my life. By an act of my will, I close my heart to him forever.”
- **Accept God’s forgiveness.** “Jesus, I accept and receive Your forgiveness.” 1 John 1:9 says, “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”
- **Commit all areas of your life to God.** For example: “Jesus, I now give my entire being to You: my body, soul and spirit. I choose to make You Lord over every part of me so I can follow You fully.” John 8:36 says, “So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed!”

HOW TO STAY FREE

Becoming free from the occult may be immediate, but *staying free* is a process requiring faith and practical steps to draw close to God. Otherwise, you could be subject to additional demonic influences (see Matthew 12:43-35).

To stay free:

- **Study the Bible.** Romans 10:17 There is power in Jesus’ name and blood. Strengthen your faith with scriptures on His power to protect, deliver and keep you:
 - Psalm 91
 - Ephesians 6:10, 13
 - Romans 8:38 “For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angles nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”
 - John 10:27-29 “My sheep listen to My voice: I know them, and they follow Me. I give them eternal life and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my Father’s hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father’s hand.”
 - Isaiah 54:17 “No weapon forged against you will prevail...”
- **Develop a consistent prayer life.** Luke 18:1, Ephesians 6:18, Jude 20
- **Fellowship with other Christians.** Hebrews 10:24-25, Acts 2:41-47
- **Resist.** Satan may try to tempt you to again involve yourself in things of an occult nature. Stand firm against him. Ephesians 4:27
- **Guard your thoughts.** Isaiah 26:3
- **Rejoice!** As you thank Jesus for setting you free, focus on the Lord and His character. Philippians 4:4

THE MANDATES

Aglow has received 3 distinct mandates from the Lord over a 30-year period of time. According to Webster's dictionary, mandate means *to entrust, an authoritative command; an authorization to act given to a representative*. God has entrusted to the ministry of Aglow three mandates that are end time in nature. Each came 10 years apart. They were not decided upon around a board table.

In 1981, Jane Hansen Hoyt first spoke on Male/Female Reconciliation at an international conference.

- 1. Gender Reconciliation** – This mandate is to promote gender reconciliation between male and female in the Body of Christ as God designed.

In 1991, the second mandate, Aglow's call to Islam, came when what has become known as the 'thread word' was given by Diane Fink at an international conference. It was confirmed again in 1993 and 1995 by male speakers during international conferences. In 2001, Diane Moder was appointed as Aglow's Islamic Awareness and Education Director.

- 2. Islam** - Aglow works to unveil the belief structure of Islam while loving the Muslim people by reaching out with news of a God who loves them.

In 2000, Aglow took the first trip to the Holy Land. It was here that Jane felt the Lord said that Aglow would be in and out of Israel many times. In the summer of 2001, at an Israel conference being held in Florida, Jane was given a strong prophetic word in relation to being called as an Esther – "for such a time as this!" The prophetic word was followed by Jane's being anointed and set apart for that call. Aglow's third mandate was set into place as well. Aglow began taking annual trips to Israel to establish a presence in the land. In 2006, the Watchman on the Wall program was designed to educate the Body of Christ about Israel.

- 3. Israel** - To stand in loving support for Israel and the Jewish people, while helping to bring awareness to the Body of Christ concerning God's plans and purposes for those people He calls the apple of His eye.

We realize God works in seasons. It is now a season where He has placed Israel and Islam on the world center stage. Biblically, Jerusalem is considered the center of the world and Israel is surrounded by nearly 300 million Muslims.

Kairos is a Greek word meaning *a set time appointed by God*. This is the *Kairos* time for the Jewish people and the Muslim people because it is time for harvest.

It is important that we have understanding if we are to effectively pray for them and reach out in the power of God's love. In these mandates we are called to *inform*, *instruct* and to *enlist* the body of Christ. Through these pages we trust you will be enlightened and challenged to impact the Jewish and Muslim people for God's kingdom purposes.

HISTORY OF THE MANDATES

MALE/FEMALE RECONCILIATION MANDATE - 1981

From Genesis to Revelation, we see that God is a God of purpose. His plan and purpose were not secret, but have been publicly declared to the universe from the beginning. Our understanding of His purpose grows, however, as our intimate knowledge of Him grows.

The man and woman were the beginning place, the foundation of the House of the Lord – the place where He would dwell and begin to reveal Himself on earth. This is key because this is the structure God chose to reveal His image. It wasn't man and man, woman and woman. It was man and woman. It is the place where He will dwell and will accomplish His purpose in the earth.

The restoration of the relationship between the man and woman is part of God's accomplishing His original purpose as it is stated in Genesis. He fashioned this union to display His image, His heart, His character. His plan was not a secret. However, the enemy knew that the success of God's plan depended on the unity and trust of Adam and Eve. Together they bore God's image.

We know the story and how Eve was deceived. Everything changed. Now Adam and Eve were no longer able to walk and talk with God in the cool of the day. Adam had to work the land to live. Eve would have pain in child birth, but even as in Genesis 3:15, where the woman exposed Satan's deceit, God would continue to use women, even today, to expose the deception that Satan brings.

Aglow's calling is still the restoration of women, but we must always be looking at the bigger picture. Women restored will help bring restoration to the foundation of the Body of Christ. Only then can God's purpose to express His image in the earth and take dominion over His enemy take place – man and woman together.

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS

- Fast and pray for the men in our lives and sphere of influence. Pray that they fulfill their destiny.
- Continue to pray for the restoration of women through the Aglow ministry, which ultimately brings wholeness to marriages, families, and the Body of Christ.
- Present a workshop to the community, sponsored by Aglow, on the subject of Male/Female Reconciliation using Jane Hansen Hoyt's book, Master Plan and material on this subject.
- Present a workshop on this subject.
- Present training to Local Fellowship leaders, especially those who are new to leadership and aren't clear on the importance of the mandates.
- Draw from the free resources on the Aglow website.

ISLAM MANDATE - 1991

God has given the women and men of Aglow a mandate for 23% of the world's population, the Muslim people. These followers of the Islamic religion have never known the love of our Father. They are without Christ and therefore without hope. They have no forgiveness of sin and no real assurance of salvation and eternal life.

We are privileged to be called and commissioned by God to co-labor with Him on behalf of the Muslim people. He is entrusting us with people close to His heart. What an awesome call!

In 1991, God spoke powerfully at our Aglow International Conference:

“For you have seen the great darkness and yea, you have said it is a formidable enemy and how shall we penetrate that darkness? For yea, it cloaks the nations, it cloaks the Muslim nations and you say to Me, ‘O Lord my God, those religious beliefs are ingrained and woven into the very fabric of their being and yet, shall they be free?’ And I say unto you tonight, yes, they shall be free. For as it takes only one thread to unravel a garment so shall I unravel the garment of Islam, even as I have unraveled the garment of communism in this hour. Yea, My people, I cry unto you, lay hold of that thread in My power and My might and we shall disrobe the garment of Islam,” saith the Lord.”

Jane Hansen Hoyt wrote in, Mantled with Authority, (Wagner Publications, 2003):

When I think of the garment of Islam, I think of the burqa, a garment worn by many Muslim women, covering them from head to foot. It is physically, and in a spiritual sense, like a shroud. TIME magazine called it a “body bag for the living.” God began to ‘unravel’ that shroud by showing the world in a very powerful way the condition imposed upon women by a system.

In 1993, Steve Penny from Australia confirmed the word:

I don't know what happened in 1991 in your Aglow convention, but Jane, I feel the Lord has given me a word for you. In 1991, something of God's purpose for this ministry was sown into your hearts by the Word of the Lord. Conception took place. Something fresh...something new...something for the ministry began to bubble. This was a new hour for the ministry of Aglow. I feel like the word for this conference is that which is being conceived – is being confirmed by the Spirit of God. Hasn't yet come to birth. I believe that in a couple of years ahead, there will be a birthing of the things that have been seeded into your hearts, but at this conference, the Spirit of God is confirming, “This is what I'm doing. This is My plan.”

In 1995, Rick Joyner reconfirmed the Islam word when he said:

Now I want to give you an invitation from Him also – an invitation, I believe, to Aglow. I believe it comes directly from the Lord: The Lord will give you Islam if you will take it.

If you were in attendance when Rick spoke forth that word, you will never forget the roar that came forth from the crowd. Yes! We will take it.

Many people today say that the Muslims, Jews, and Christians all believe in the same God. This is not true. In the United States, it has been voiced by government and religious leaders that Islam is a religion of peace. However, evidence points to a spirit behind Islam that is rooted in violence and hatred.

The goal of Islam is to establish a worldwide Islamic empire that dominates all civil and secular laws, courts, and executive decisions. All western nations have been targeted. Today the Muslim population is increasing in number throughout Europe, North America, Australia, and New Zealand.

Many believe that Islam came from Ishmael, Abraham's son; however, Muhammad is the founder of Islam. While Muhammad had a desire to know God, he listened to a false angel and began to preach a false gospel.

Muslims will say they believe in the Bible. They say they believe in Noah, Abraham, David, and other prophets, even Jesus! These statements are deceiving and cause people to think that Muslims worship the same God as the Jews and Christians. What they do not tell is that according to Islam, the books of Moses and the gospel of Christ have been corrupted and changed by honest people. They believe their holy book, the Qur'an, corrects and finalizes the truth from God.

God has given this mandate into our hands to expose the system behind the religion. We love the people, and we expose the lies and deception that the religion teaches. For up-to-date information contact Diane Moder. She stays on the cutting edge of developments concerning the advances of Islam and the conversions of Muslims to Christ.

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS

- Pray
 - Personal and corporate prayer using the handouts available in MyAglow on the Aglow website
 - Prayer journeys with others – adopt a mosque, Islamic school, or training center in your area.
 - Prayer at Aglow outreach meetings – take time to pray according to the days headlines concerning Islamic activity.
- Be Informed - Learn more about Islam and how to reach the Muslim people with the gospel.
 - Purchase a copy of the training manual written by Aglow to train you how to reach out to Muslims.
 - Research on Christian web sites: www.answering-islam.org, www.abrahamic-faith.com, www.thespiritofislam.com
 - DVDs – Contact the Aglow Islamic Awareness and Education Director for more information.
- Pray for the Diwaniya for Women program on Public Access Television.
- Reach out to Muslim students on a college campus by making friends with them.

ISRAEL MANDATE - 2001

In June, 2001, the call to Israel was confirmed at a gathering in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, through several prophets in the Body of Christ including Don Finto and James Goll. Jane Hansen Hoyt was called out of the audience, had hands laid upon her, and was prayed and prophesied over in relation to the call to Israel. It was a public impartation, a public setting apart, and a public anointing for Israel for the entire ministry of Aglow.

At that time, James Goll prophesied:

...all of that which is under your charge shall come forth into this revelation, and it will be a domino effect, and there shall be a new injection that shall go forth into the global prayer movement.

All the leaders there declared:

An Esther! You're an Esther. Raise up Queen Esther's court.

They concluded with:

You have been called. You have been positioned. You have been given the king's favor. And we (men) are recognizing the place God is giving women.

The men speaking that day knew nothing of God's Esther call to Aglow down through the years. It was a significant moment of impartation and another milestone in the mandate to Israel.

Israel, and specifically Jerusalem, is becoming the focal point of all the earth. The Middle East is the center of the spiritual war that has been raging since the beginning of time, and will be the place where the culmination of the age occurs.

A new wave of anti-Semitism, disguised as anti-Zionism, is sweeping the global community. It challenges the legitimate right of Israel to exist. More and more, college and university campuses are providing a platform for anti-Jewish and anti-Israel rhetoric fueling hate. There is a move among some mainline denominations to divest their pension funds from companies that do business with Israel. Global news sources routinely present a biased anti-Israel perspective when reporting. Increasingly, we hear Israel being labeled as the new Nazi nation and compared to South Africa as an apartheid state.

There has been a dangerous increase in hate crimes globally against Jews and Jewish places of worship. Some social historians report that anti-Semitism is now reaching pre-World War II proportions worldwide – the same proportions that climaxed in the murder of six million Jews and the annihilation of over 5,000 Jewish communities in Europe. The Church cannot remain silent. Aglow is leading the way in calling all to stand with Israel and address anti-Semitism.

God has given Aglow a mandate to the land and people of Israel – God's chosen people. He has given us authority as an apostolic ministry to be a prophetic voice that will stand against the spirit of Haman that is manifesting with renewed strength through anti-Semitism, Replacement Theology, and Islamic fundamentalism, whose chief aim is the destruction of Israel and the Jews.

God has given Aglow a heart to support, love, and give comfort to the people of Israel. He has given us understanding and wisdom to pray and proclaim His prophetic purposes over the nation and the people.

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS

- Prayer
 - Pray the headlines concerning Israel and the Middle East at Aglow outreach meetings.
 - Participate in an Aglow journey to Israel.
- Join the weekly conference call concerning Israel that Aglow holds.
- Education and Awareness
 - Host a Watchmen on the Wall seminar
 - Visit the Aglow website and search out the handouts available.

AGLOW MEN OF ISSACHAR



MEN OF A WARRIOR SPIRIT

In early 2015, the Men's Groups became known as the Aglow Men of Issachar - MOI. Men of Issachar understand the times in which they are living. God is seeking true worshippers and seekers of His heart. God is raising up a new army of priests, prophets, and kings.

Men of Issachar Groups are led by men, for men and usually have between 3-5 leaders. Men are drawn to the move of God taking place at Aglow meetings and they want the same experiences. In Aglow the men's groups and the women's groups will function under the guidelines in the *International Local Handbook for Women & Men in Aglow*. The M.O.I. Groups relate directly to the National Leadership and the M.O.I. Director.

In addition to those guidelines there are some procedures that are specific to MOI.

WHAT IS A MAN OF ISSACHAR?

- » God is rising up a company of men to be priests, prophets, and kings who will follow after God's heart and not their own...
- » A servant who is humble and honorable who does not need to be noticed. He is present, even though his presence in a crowd is not noticeable. But when he is not around, his absence is felt...
- » A man with a heart of compassion and expressions of worship...
- » Ready to embrace his calling and inheritance to serve the purposes of God...Full of understanding to discern the times...
 - 1 Chronicles 12:32..."And the children of Issachar, who were men who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do..."
- » Issachar means "a man who brings his gifts."

MEN OF ISSACHAR IDENTITY STATEMENT

Men of Issachar, Aglow International, is a strong group of Priests, Prophets, and Kings who brings their gifts, bearing one another's burdens, working in humility, servanthood, honor and compassion, willing to take the road less traveled if the road is right. We understand the times and chase after God's heart in worship, surrounded by reward...lifting, advancing, and bringing forth the Word of God into the earth. We are working intercessors that bring change.

<p>Purpose for Men of Issachar Community Groups</p> <p>Target the Strengths/Gifts of Every Man</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » How can every man use his gifts and strengths to fulfil his destiny? » In what ways can a man progress toward knowing who he is in Christ and the identity that reveals how he is known in heaven? 	<p>Appropriate the Strengths/Gifts of Every Man into Targeted Opportunities to Serve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Prayer » Worship » Growth and Enrichment » Evangelism and Transformation » Service » Friendship and Mentoring » Community Group
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MOI COMMUNITY GROUPS

THERE ARE TWO WAYS TO BEGIN A MEN OF ISSACHAR GROUP

- » As a **MOI Community Group** with the 3 to 5 men required to form a committee.
- » As a **Target Group** if there are not enough men available to form a committee for a MOI Community Group, 1 or 2 men can affiliate as a Target Group. Examples of a Target Group are listed on the chart below.

MOI Community Groups					
TARGET: Prayer	TARGET: Worship	TARGET: Evangelism - Transformation	TARGET: Growth and Enrichment	TARGET: Service	TARGET: Friendship - Mentoring

MOI TARGET GROUPS

HOW TARGET GROUPS RELATE TO THE MEN OF ISSACHAR COMMUNITY GROUPS

- » As a **Community Group**, 3 to 5 men form a committee with goals to reach out and gather men together in the community.
- » As a **Target Group**, 1 or 2 men, who have a passion for one of the targets, begin to outreach in their town focusing on that target, while seeking other men to join them.
- » The goal of a Target Group is to grow into becoming a MOI Community Group, which encompasses several targets according to the strengths and gifts the men involved have among them.
- » A Target Group may also be an outreach of a local MOI Community Group, focusing on one particular passion.
- » Separate affiliations are available for Target Groups and Community Groups. (The same forms are used for both types of groups.)
- » As Target Groups become part of (or grows into becoming) a Community Group, the Target Group Facilitator becomes part of the larger group's leadership team to promote the Aglow vision and purpose of their Group.
- » We encourage Target groups to meet with a Community group if available.
- » Every MOI Group is a place of vision, prayer, worship, and ministry for all men to attend.
- » All MOI Groups within a community are encouraged to support each other in ministry opportunities and in vision. All Groups are expected to operate within the Aglow International mandates, ministry vision, and mission statements.
- » All MOI Groups should tithe to your Aglow national leadership, and follow their guidelines regarding Global Partnership.

WHO DOES THE MOI COMMUNITY OR TARGET GROUP RELATE TO FOR LEADERSHIP?

There are a variety of ways you may have learned about MOI... from someone in Aglow in your nation, at a National or a Global Aglow Conference, through your national Aglow leaders, by reading a MOI Newsletter, or directly from Dave McDaniel, the MOI Director for Aglow International.

Next it is important that you and the other potential leaders pray about becoming involved or beginning an MOI group, and talk with the Aglow National leadership in your nation or with Dave McDaniel about your interest.

- » Men of Issachar leaders communicate closely and freely with Dave McDaniel, MOI Director at davemcdaniel@aglow.org.
- » It is **also important** to relate directly with the Aglow National leadership in your nation.
 - If you are not yet in contact with your Aglow National Leadership and you do not know who that is, Dave McDaniel can provide that information to you.

If your nation does not have a national Aglow leader, you should write directly to the Global Field Office - International at:

Global Field Office – International
Aglow International
P.O. Box 1749
Edmonds, WA 98020-1749, USA

Email: intl.fieldoffice@aglow.org

HOW TO AFFILIATE AS AN AGLOW MOI COMMUNITY GROUP

Once the National Leader and Dave McDaniel agree that you are ready to begin an Aglow Men of Issachar Community Group, receive from the Aglow National leadership in your nation, **or** from Dave McDaniel the MOI Director, a copy of these MOI guidelines which includes two forms:

- » MOI Affiliation (form also serves as the Change of Information Form)
- » MOI Leadership Questionnaire
- » Complete these two forms:
 - Each prospective MOI leader should carefully read the leadership form before answering the questions.
- » When both sides of the forms are completed (forms can be completed and sent via e-mail) send copies as follows:
 - Email one copy to your Aglow national leadership. It is your Aglow national leaders who will review your leadership papers and give approval for you to serve as an Aglow MOI leader in your nation. They will also become familiar with the type of MOI you want to begin.
 - Email a copy also to Dave McDaniel at davemcdaniel@aglow.org He will be available to answer your questions, provide you with additional information and – as soon as your Aglow National leadership tells him that your leadership papers are approved – Dave McDaniel will work with you to begin functioning in your MOI group.
- » Always copy both Dave McDaniel and your Aglow National leadership on any emails that you write to either of them. They will do the same. **Remember, yours is a “both/and” relationship** with your Aglow National leadership and Dave McDaniel, the MOI Director.

Next, a Community Group consists of 3 to 5 men who serve on a leadership team that will oversee the group’s activities.

- » One serves as the Aglow MOI Leader/Facilitator, with 2 to 4 MOI Co-Leaders.
- » Because one of the ways God is using the Aglow ministry is to introduce people to the person of the Holy Spirit and His power, it is important that all leaders in Aglow are filled with the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues.
- » Each committee member does whatever responsibilities are decided upon as they work together.

You are a part of MOI, and you are also a part of the ministry of Aglow International in your nation. It is not an “either/or” relationship, but a **“both/and” relationship between you, the MOI Director, and your Aglow National leadership in your nation.**

It is very important that you maintain communication with Dave McDaniel and/or the National Board updating them in a timely manner of your activities, successes and any problems you may be experiencing. This gives you prayer support and a mature, understanding friend to walk through the joys and struggles of leadership with you.

AGLOW MOI ADVISORS

The National leader and Dave McDaniel will serve as advisors to the MOI groups.

HOW TO PROCEED AS AN AGLOW MOI COMMUNITY GROUP

As a committee, you should pray together asking God for guidance and wisdom as you lead your Aglow MOI Group. It is important to ask for godly wisdom as to how God would have you introduce MOI to your community (including its churches).

- » Begin by following the plans and goals you wrote on your leadership form. If you feel God wants you to change your plans and goals, tell the Aglow leader for your nation and Dave McDaniel about this.
- » Select a location and time for monthly public meetings to be held. We recommend that this place be a public meeting room so that all will feel comfortable in attending. However, in certain places, MOI meetings may need to be held in homes, churches, or in the open air. Since you may want to publicize your gatherings (with flyers, in newspapers, on radio, by email, Facebook etc.) and help people remember, it is best to keep the time and place the same from month to month.
- » The Aglow Vision and Mission Statements as well as the mandates provide an excellent springboard to reach into the community. An inviting and fun atmosphere provides a safe place for both Christian and non-Christian men to gather. You are intimately involved in mobilizing God's plan upon the earth. Just one encounter with God can totally transform a man's world!
- » See also page 19 of the Local Handbook for a list of ideas for reaching out to the community.
- » Outreach in a MOI Community Group has a two-fold purpose:
 - Gathering men in
 - Reaching out to men

HOW DOES THE MOI COMMUNITY GROUP HANDLE ITS FINANCES?

The MOI Community Group will need to have available enough money to cover refreshments at the meeting or travel expenses for a speaker. It is recommended that you open a bank account for your MOI group, with two signatures required for each check written. See also Pages 65-67 of the Local Handbook for additional information for Local Treasurers.

Target Groups generally will not have need of a bank account. Consult your National Leadership if you have questions.

HOW TO AFFILIATE AS AN AGLOW MOI TARGET GROUP

If there are not enough men available to form a committee for a MOI Community Group, 1 or 2 men can affiliate as a Target Group. An Aglow MOI Target Group is designed to provide a small, or remote, group of men the opportunity to be linked to Aglow Men of Issachar.

Each Target Group has a focus. Some examples are listed below.

Prayer	Worship	Evangelism Transformation
Growth & Enrichment	Service	Friendship-Mentoring

As a Target Group, 1 or 2 men who have a passion for one of these targets, begin by praying together and ask God how to begin to outreach in your town focusing on the target God has given to you. During this time it is important to be in close communication with your Aglow National Leader and with Dave McDaniel, keeping them fully aware of what you feel God is leading you to do in your community.

Once the National Leader and Dave McDaniel agree that you are ready to begin an Aglow Men of Issachar Target Group, receive from the Aglow National leadership in your nation, **or** from Dave McDaniel the MOI Director, a copy of these MOI guidelines which includes two forms:

- » MOI Affiliation (form also serves as the Change of Information Form)
- » MOI Leadership Questionnaire
- » Complete these two forms:
 - Each prospective MOI leader should carefully read the leadership form before answering the questions.
 - Because one of the ways God is using the Aglow ministry is to introduce people to the person of the Holy Spirit and His power, it is important that all leaders in Aglow are filled with the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues.
 - Each Target Group member does whatever responsibilities are decided upon as they work together
- » When both sides of the forms are completed (forms can be completed and sent via e-mail) send copies as follows:
 - Email one copy to your Aglow National leadership. It is your Aglow national leaders who will review your leadership papers and give approval for you to serve as an Aglow MOI leader in your nation. They will also become familiar with the type of MOI you want to begin.
 - Email a copy also to Dave McDaniel at davemcdaniel@aglow.org He will be available to answer your questions, provide you with additional information and – as soon as your Aglow National leadership tells him that your leadership papers are approved – Dave McDaniel will work with you to begin functioning in your MOI Target Group.
- » Always copy both Dave McDaniel and your Aglow National leadership on any emails that you write to either of them. They will do the same. **Remember, yours is a “both/and” relationship** with your Aglow National leadership and Dave McDaniel, the MOI Director.

- » It is very important that you maintain communication with Dave McDaniel and/or the National Board updating them in a timely manner of your activities, successes and any problems you may be experiencing. This gives you prayer support and a mature, understanding friend to walk through the joys and struggles of leadership with you.
- » Begin by following the plans and goals you wrote on your leadership form. If you feel God wants you to change your plans and goals, tell the Aglow leader for your nation **and** Dave McDaniel about this.

If your Target Group is an outreach of a local MOI Community Group, share with the Community Group leaders what God is showing you to do and get their approval before proceeding.

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP IN AGLOW INTERNATIONAL

Members of an affiliated MOI Group must agree to become a Global Partner of Aglow in their nation or through Aglow International.

You will find [Aglow Global Partnership](#) information in Section 7 of the *International Local Handbook for Women and Men in Aglow*

Regarding tithing from MOI, we suggest the following:

- » MOI groups tithe to their National Leadership
- » National leadership tithe of these MOI amounts received, to MOI International at Aglow headquarters. This will aid in supporting this growing ministry within Aglow.

AGLOW@HOME



WHAT IS AGLOW@HOME?

Aglow@home is a new type of affiliated Aglow group for international groups only with the primary focus on in-home meetings that reach out to the neighborhood and community. This new group model was originally created by and tested in Aglow Germany, with great results. In today's world, relationships are more important than ever, and Aglow@home was created for such a time as this. Perhaps it is just right for YOU!

Aglow@home focuses on relationships. The primary audience for this group are your friends, neighbors and community. Connection and relationship – two things the world is crying out for – is our goal and what we seek to cultivate in the host home. We share stories of Christ and what He has done, how He is answering prayers, and what walking with Jesus looks like personally.

Aglow@home meetings are smaller, have a more intimate, and “at home” feel. There is a host, but there is not a “main speaker.” There can be worship, but there is not a full worship team. Aglow@home is simple. It is doable.

This is Aglow evangelism in a new format. **Rather than expecting people to come to us**, we invite and welcome people into our homes, we tell them about Jesus, and share His love with them.

WHY AGLOW@HOME?

You may ask yourself, why introduce a new type of Aglow group in my town or community?

Our society has become more fast-paced than ever. With every technological advance we make, it seems more demands and expectations are put on us. As a result, society longs for REST. “One more meeting” and “one more event” is not what people seek. However, what we seek are activities that will FEED our soul, and activities that are LIFE GIVING. Aglow@home seeks to provide these things.

Aglow@home, in some ways, brings us back to our roots where Aglow began in someone's living room. Today gathering in a home is an important way to meet the challenges of a fast-paced world.

The purpose of meeting in homes is to give a comfortable, relaxed place to gather people and share what the Lord is doing in our lives. It is a **place to slow down**, to focus on others, grow relationships and give opportunity to the Holy Spirit.

Aglow@home is practical as there is **no need to rent a meeting hall** or banquet room. There is no need to search for speakers and look for well-known names in your community to lead an event. In your Aglow@home meeting, there is just the need for an open home where people will feel welcome. Your set up routine includes providing a comfortable place to seat your guests. Your speaker is the entire group and a **place for meaningful life discussions where all participate.**

WHAT IS THE FOCUS OF AGLOW@HOME?

SHARING

Aglow@home should be a safe place to share and build connections. The blessing of Aglow@home in comparison to larger meetings is that people can participate more than being just spectators. This is a place you can be *heard* and be part of a caring, Christ-centered community.

PRAYER

A safe place to *share* leads to a safe place to *pray*. Prayer is a pillar of Aglow, and it is the foundation of Aglow@home – in forming groups, hosting groups, and in caring for members. It is a focus of every Aglow@home meeting, because we know that the heart of these meetings are to connect with the One who loves us most, the Savior of our souls.

GROWTH AND DISCIPLESHIP

Aglow@home seeks to build relationships with others and share what Jesus means to them. Evangelism is also a pillar in Aglow. Our heart is that the groups would be reaching the lost and the unchurched in their neighborhood. It is a welcome occasion to tell others about Jesus, to walk with those who are new to faith in Jesus, and to do life with all who are Jesus followers.

FAITH

Jesus said, “*Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to the Father.*” John 14:12 NASB What better place than Aglow@home to see God bring salvations? Physical healings? Emotional healings? Miracles?

HOSPITALITY

Aglow@home is the place to let your hospitality gift shine! This does not mean you have to be an amazing decorator or a cooking star. This just means you can create a safe, clean, welcome environment that others will feel at home in! We suggest you provide a simple snack and/or beverage for your meetings – Coffee and biscuits, tea and cookies, or something similar. You don’t need to make a feast or spend a lot of money, but providing a snack and beverage will help guests feel more....at home.

ENCOUNTERING GOD

Worship has a place in your Aglow@home meeting. As the word says, *Worship opens the doors to God’s goodness* (Psalm 34 MSG). Spending time in worship will bring God’s presence to your meeting. So as you form your Aglow@home agenda, it is important to include worship as part of it.

MULTIPLICATION

Aglow@home groups are designed to grow, multiply and are aimed at all people: women, men, couples and singles. All generations are represented and we encourage encounters and exchanges of people from different generations and ethnic backgrounds. The leaders responsible for forming the group determine the target audience of each group.

Part of the goal of Aglow@home is to start groups that will raise up leaders who launch their own Aglow@home group. While not all groups will look like this, here is a sample of this goal:

- Your Aglow@home group should begin with a Leader and a Co-leader.
- The size of the group can range from 5 – 20 people, depending on the size of your living room.
- Determine the theme or focus of your group (i.e.: Young mothers, Single fathers, My neighbors, Young Professionals, Refugees, Mixed Ages, Mentorship, etc.). The theme could be personal development with GameChangers/LifeChangers.
- Determine the goal length of your group. We suggest 1 year.
- Clearly communicate to your group the time commitment and schedule, so they know this is a limited opportunity. (We find that once people know they are committing to something that is a specific timeframe, they are keener to join.)

TIMEFRAME

- We recommend having a monthly meeting for a period of maximum one year to start.
- As the end of your group timeframe approaches (i.e. 1 year) start to speak with your group regarding what they sense about the meetings. Would they like to continue meeting? If yes, discuss what the focus should be in the coming 9-12 months.
- As the one-year mark is met, the Co-leader should strongly consider branching off to start a new group, with a new focus and finding new members or with some of the original group that would like to join. With the home meeting format, each group should be kept small enough to meet comfortably in the Leader's home. He/she will then become the Leader of the new group and should then seek a Co-leader for this new group. Then, the cycle begins again.
- The Leader of the original group can hopefully continue leading, and can change their group focus if desired. They should also gain a new Co-leader. Or perhaps, they would like someone else to lead, and they themselves can take a turn as Co-Leader.
- In this way, we can see groups grow and multiply!
- You may be asking - - does a group HAVE to end after one year? No, it certainly does not! However, we hope you will see the benefit to groups splitting and growing, and welcome the opportunity should it come.

AGLOW@HOME LEADER RESPONSIBILITIES

- It is important that Leaders keep Aglow's vision and purpose always before them as they make plans for the Aglow@home group.
- To promote the lives and growth of people in your Aglow@home group by bringing them to Jesus in ways they can understand. Get to know their desires and needs in order to serve them well.
- To organize prayer and preparation for meetings with your Co-leader and any other members of your group.
- Be ready to open your house or apartment to people whom God shows you.

- If you are married, your spouse should be in agreement with your commitment to Aglow and the opening of your home.
- It is important that as a Leader you are a part of a Christian church, congregation or community and attend services on a regular basis. The connection to a local church provides a stable foundation for your personal spiritual growth.
- As a Leader, you have many responsibilities as well as full use of your talents. It is important that your role as an Aglow leader be a priority as it will require your focus and time.
- Begin the group meeting with worship in order to make a place for God's presence to come. If spiritual gifts manifest themselves during your meetings (e.g., prophetic words), be prepared to bring teaching as to the purpose of these spiritual gifts in such a way that even non-Christians understand what these mean.
- Bring new ideas into your joint work in order to arouse interest and enthusiasm for your members and guests.
- Encourage your Co-leader in their talents and ministry gifts. Give them room to try things out and support them in it. This will train them in starting an Aglow@home group.
- Ask your Co-leader regularly for feedback. In addition, if you have given them a task, give some feedback as well. In this way, you will learn from each other and grow together.
- As an Aglow Leader, you are a talent scout who is always on the lookout for potential new leaders. In this way, you are promoting and growing your new Aglow@home group.
- Leaders are encouraged to commit and plan to attend Aglow National, Regional and/or Global Conferences whenever possible. By attending, Leaders will receive training, connect with other like-minded leaders and hear firsthand what is happening in Aglow in your nation and around the world.
- The Aglow Global Prayer Targets are sent monthly to Aglow around the world. Plan to bring this to your meetings in order to expand the group's vision for prayer.
- Plan for your group to join regular Zoom prayer calls if the National Board overseeing your nation schedules them. This is a place to pray for your nation as well as individual groups.
- Actively stay in contact with the Aglow National Board for your nation, especially when you have questions, suggestions, or to share ideas. The National Board will be very interested in how you are doing and what is happening with your group.
- Membership in Aglow is Global Partnership. It is important that all Leaders become Global Partners and promote this within their Aglow@home groups. It means being a part of Aglow's ministry to people of all ages, races, and cultures. Because partnership is a sign of commitment, a helpful criteria for finding leadership, and a tangible way of supporting the ministry and linking Aglow individuals across the world, partnership should be offered in every nation except where legally or culturally prohibited. The National Leadership determines the amount for GP over each nation. See the Local Handbook for more information or contact the Aglow National Leadership over your group.
- Be a good example of leadership: Transparency, character, honesty, modesty and friendliness should guide you in dealing with your members and guests. As they learn from you, they can go on to use these leadership qualities when they begin their own Aglow@home group.

AGLOW@HOME LEADER'S ROLE

- Aglow Leaders recognize that their personal identity is in Jesus. That the Kingdom of Heaven is here and we view all things and circumstances through the lens of Heaven.
- Aglow Leaders have a great expectation – because they know who they are and Whose they are.
- Aglow Leaders ask God for opportunities to take their city, region or country for Him.
- We have a promise and provision for everything we do in the Kingdom of God.
- The main purpose of leadership is to advance those you lead. Lead by example and share your life with the people in your group and testify of what God is doing in your life.
- Everything is based on relationships because that is the heart of God. Aglow@home groups will consolidate and grow by appreciating, respecting and encouraging one another. Leaders view each one in your group as precious and loved by God.

AGLOW@HOME CO-LEADER'S ROLE

As an Aglow Co-leader, you are to come alongside and support the Leader in everything she/he plans and brings. Be fully by their side and continue to develop things together that God has put on their heart.

This is a time of training for you. Take it as a chance to grow and develop. Even if you think you could never be a leader, God has possibilities that are far beyond what you could imagine. Do not limit yourself.

CONTENT OF MEETINGS

- Open discussion on topics
- Testimonies
- Discipleship course
- GameChangers/LifeChangers
- Dinner Party (occasionally)
- Book Study
- Etc.

WAYS TO INVITE AND CONNECT

Jesus gives us a clear mandate to go to the people, a “go culture”. Today many Christians have a “come culture”. We encourage people to come to us and we will be there for them. As you **go** with personal invitation to your Aglow@home group people will be drawn to come.

You may have a specific target group of women or men you want to form the group. You can spread the news in an applicable way for your desired audience. It may be for students, refugees, young parents, business people, or neighbors. Find ways to connect where the people are.

Here are some practical ways to invite and connect:

- Invitation Cards – Make welcoming invite cards
- Flyers – “What is Aglow” and about your group
- Website for your group
- Social Media page and event invitations
- Email List
- Word of mouth – encourage group members to invite others

As the Leaders create an inviting and comfortable place of fellowship, people will be excited for the group and will feel happy to commit to being a part. Many people longing for fellowship will connect and share about the group with others.

FINANCES

- With virtually no overhead expenses for a meeting room or speakers costs, you and the Aglow@home group will not have need for a bank account. After your group becomes established, if you would like to set out a bowl for donations to help pay for the coffee, tea or snacks, that is acceptable.
- Every six months take an offering for the National Board of your nation to help support Aglow in your nation.

AFFILIATION PROCESS

The affiliation process for Aglow@home has been simplified to help your group become established quickly and without the stress of excessive paperwork. Because of the one-year timeframe option of these groups, it is important to complete the application form as soon as your National Leader has approved a group. Following are two options for affiliating your Aglow@home group.

- ***Option 1:*** The quickest way to apply for affiliation is to use the Aglow Expedited Affiliation form, accessed by the link below.
- A password is required from your National Leader in order access this form found online at: <https://www.aglow.org/resources/expedited-affiliations-international-groups>
- The forms are also available in Spanish and French.
- ***Option 2:*** You may also apply using the Aglow@home affiliation form located on the following page of these guidelines. The completed form may be mailed or emailed as an attachment to intl.affiliations@aglow.org.

In most nations, the National Leader will receive a welcome letter for the new Aglow@home group. However, there will be no Charter sent.