

W E 'L L A L W A Y S B E A B O U T R E S T O R I N G W O M E N !

The first bullet of Aglow's mission statement says so!

To help restore and mobilize women around the world.

To promote gender reconciliation in the Body of Christ as God designed.

To amplify awareness of global concerns from a Biblical perspective.

As God has shifted the priorities of Aglow's ministry "assignment" over the past three decades, we have responded. The Mission Statement reflects the three mandates God has so clearly spoken to the ministry. The second bullet speaks to our mandate of male/female reconciliation. The third bullet encompasses the calls to Israel, and Islam – the very focal point of global concerns in our present-day world, i.e., the Middle East.

However, it is the first bullet that contains the essence, the DNA, of Aglow and it is about restoring women! That has not changed, nor will it. Within the wording of the first bullet -- *to restore and mobilize women* – is the concept of sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ. In order to be restored, a woman must first be saved and restored to relationship with God. Also, part of the restoration is discipleship, prayer, encouragement, healing, all of which come through relationship. So the foundational pillars of Aglow – prayer, evangelism, relationship – still contain the heart of who we are as a ministry.

The word *mobilize* means "to gather together, to activate, to assemble." We have been mobilizing women since our inception. Our prayer network mobilizes women around the world to pray. Our excellent leadership development prepares women to be mobilized as leaders, as those who serve. It takes just a quick phone call to an Aglow woman in any city, state, or country and the "caring women" are mobilized to meet a need.

This one statement, *to help restore and mobilize women*, summarizes the woman-to-woman ministry that occurs primarily on the local level and area level as well. It encompasses everything from salvation, to baptism in the Holy Spirit, healing, relationship, prayer, Bible studies, care groups, evangelistic outreaches, and leadership development.

Our Mission Statement, which was rewritten in 2004 to reflect more accurately where God is taking Aglow, also keeps before us the "big picture" of why women need to be restored. It is greater than personal growth and happiness. We, as mature Christian women, need to be a vital part of God's greater plan in the earth. We live in a world in which it is critical that we be aware of the times. We need to be like the tribe of Issachar who "knew the times." Because of the seriousness of this hour, we must understand God's perspective on current events. Israel and Islam are issues we read about every day in the newspaper and hear about on the evening news. As Christians, we are called to discern the events happening in the world today from a biblical perspective that transcends secular media and our own cultural views.

Most importantly, we, in Aglow, need to be concerned with those things that concern God: Male/Female Reconciliation so the church can fulfill its destiny, the land of Israel and the Jewish people, and finally, Islam, with its anti-Christ spirit that holds 1 billion people in bondage. A prayerful understanding of these mandates gives each of us the opportunity to impart the truth about these issues to our family, friends, church, anyone in our sphere of influence.