

Side *by* Side

A quarterly newsletter for leaders



Four Reasons Why This Issue Is for You

- 1 Learn to ground your hope in God's goodness rather than your circumstances with a powerful teaching video from Leslie Bennett.
- 2 Be refreshed by the still waters of the Word when you accept your invitation to "Five Days of Quiet Rest."
- 3 Discover practical ways to express biblical encouragement to your ministry team.
- 4 Prepare for a year in God's Word and help the women you lead experience the power of a personal devotional life—page by page, from Genesis to Revelation.

Video Teaching: Tether Your Heart and Hope to Jesus



Pull up a chair, friend. If you could use more of God's strength and grace, you won't want to miss this devotional teaching from Leslie Bennett. She'll help you assess whether your hope is tethered to what you're facing or whether it's grounded in the goodness of God. Grab your Bible, turn to Psalms, and allow the truth of Scripture to reorient your heart and strengthen your hope as you watch this video.

Your Invitation to a Place of Quiet Rest



When you intentionally make time to meet with Jesus through the Word, as you sit quietly with His truth and seek to abide in Him, your hope revives. Has it been a while since you lingered with Him? If so, consider this your invitation to return to a place of quiet rest.

"[Leader, Revive Your Hope with a Place of Quiet Rest](#)" by Katie Laitkep includes five days of devotional content with quotes from Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth, Scripture passages to meditate on, and reflection questions just for leaders. You'll find your heart refreshed as you spend time with the One who restores your soul.

Rooted in Hope: Two Resources to Refresh Your Heart



Renewed hope blooms when we abide in Christ. As we stay connected to the Vine, the Lord produces an ever-increasing harvest of spiritual fruit and deep joy that only comes from Him. But abiding isn't just beneficial—it's essential for greater usefulness in God's kingdom. Learn more in Cindy Matson's article "[Staying in the Water: What Happens When We Abide](#)."

When the Master Gardener is lopping off your dead, unfruitful branches, do you ever try to escape His discipline? The marks left where the Lord has pruned you are evidence of His grace as He helps you grow to be more like Jesus. Ellen Mary Dykas explains more in her article "[How the Father's Pruning Grows Leaders](#)."

Don't Forget to Thank Your Team!



Imagine trying to serve all alone. Our ministries simply couldn't thrive without the unique spiritual gifts God has placed within the Body of Christ—nor without the faithful volunteers who pour out their time and hearts for His kingdom. When was the last time you paused to thank your team?

The upcoming holidays provide the perfect opportunity to express genuine appreciation for all they do. You may want to offer a personal word or gesture to your co-laborers to say that you notice their work and to share how you see the Spirit working in and through them. As you consider ways to build up those you lead, check out Christina Fox's article "[How to \(Biblically\) Encourage Your Ministry Team](#)" to learn how to "go beyond pithy statements and straight to the heart and soul, reminding each other of our great God who works in and through us for the glory of His name."

Read through the Bible with the Women You Lead



Nothing compares to the intimacy of meeting Jesus in His Word and experiencing the transforming power of a personal devotional life. Invite the women you lead to encounter Christ together in 2026—page by page, from Genesis to Revelation.

When you [sign up to Read through the Bible](#) with *Revive Our Hearts* in 2026, you'll receive daily prompts in your inbox to help you behold the wonder of the Word. You'll also be able to share what the Lord is teaching you with sisters across the globe as part of an exclusive online community.

Make plans now to spend next year abiding in the Word of God and encouraging the women in your ministry to do the same. May you learn together what it means to "not live on bread alone but *on every word* that comes from the mouth of God" (Matt. 4:4, emphasis added), and may your hearts be nourished and strengthened as you abide in Jesus.

Have You Heard about Women's Ministry Essentials?



Our first Women's Ministry Essentials course for new and developing leaders is *full*! This seven-week, online, interactive course prepares leaders who are called to start or rebuild a women's ministry for lasting fruitfulness. Don't miss the announcement about the next Essentials course offering: [join our waitlist](#) today.

Our Team



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Side by Side exists to equip you with the resources you need, right when you need them. Don't forget, you have an all access pass to every edition of Side by Side at [Leader Connection](#) at *Revive Our Hearts*.