

1. What is your view (corporate and personal) of women in leadership within the church? Women are "leaders" whether the church gives them a title or not. 80% of all the volunteers in church are female, and wherever women go there is influence (good or bad) and people of influence lead more than people with titles do.

2. What are women in and out of church lacking in today's society? What is the need you see in the woman in your community? Real friends, friendships, deep personal relationship. Most women are not trained in character qualities, like I teach. That is why they have poor friendship skills, and run from relationship when they get mad, and they get mad very easily. Women are too fragile, in my opinion. Qualities like those I teach in Mentoring Women are rarely addressed in conferences, books, etc.

3. Does your church have an active women's ministry? If so, what do you do (all aspects) Our women's ministry is called "Sister Act" and within the ministry we have "connect groups" where people of like hobby meet together for fun nights and share a common love for a thing, love for one another, and love for God. We have a ministry within the group called "H.U.G.S. (Help Using God's Strength) where women assist other women through divorce, loss, depression, illness, etc. Other aspects are our weekly Women's Learning Community, our monthly activity nights and our yearly retreat!

4. How does your community respond to women in leadership? Our community of faith is used to and very much respects women in leadership. I have been well received and have grown in my role within the 20 years here. The community at large is the same. We have a woman mayor! Many women hold other government offices in our city and county. There are also many large businesses run by female. Whoohoo! Are there specific societal, cultural, racial issues that effect your area and the way that your women's ministry is run? No, not really. and are the women involved in social justice projects? Yes, we are involved in social aspects of our country and our world, but we may be among the minority in that. Most churches are very much "separate" and are driven primarily by the needs within their own church.

5. What changes do you see in the women participating? Well, we focus on "Inner Beauty" as you can tell from my website. Our church "Epic Faith" is very devoted to building relationships, so I see women learning from each other, giving to each other, caring for one another, and looking for ways to bless their world! I love that!!!

6. Does this place value on them. They feel that every day has value, and their investment in their corner of the world is a big one, so I'd say YES they feel valuable. It is my goal to make sure they do!

7. What is the main issue or conflict within the women's ministry you have noticed in church? Here in Atlanta, we are plagued with the need for two-income households.

This puts a lot of pressure on my women. How do you respond? First deciding to work or not to work outside of the home to improve the quality of life. Second, juggling all that is required of them either way. This means that I have to carefully plan and not over-meeting them to death! Also, I have to be understanding when they drop the ball as volunteers leaders. And I have to realize that everyone cannot come to everything! They will have to pick and choose, so I have to be wise about my meetings, etc.

8. Where do you see your women's ministry headed? Where do you see American women's ministry headed? Where do you see the world of women's ministry headed? I cannot speak for America, or the World, but we are going to keep doing what we do with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength. We are going to build relationships and grow in our faith. We are going to give, and sow, and love, and forgive. And we will pray that it will affect our corner of the world in hopes of having a positive impact on our city, our country and our world for the Glory of God!

9. How big is your women's ministry? Small now. Less than 100. We grew to 800 people as a church and then went through a very painful splintering process. We grew through it and emerged stronger and more focused than ever! Changed our name, bought a swim-tennis facility and became a 7-day a week ministry!!

10. Can you give me any other information or would you like to add anything else? You can see/read more about me by going to my website, and our church website. I would love it if you would help me promote my Mentoring Women and Mentoring Young Women material in Australia! I am a speaker and author. I would love to read your thesis when you are done with it! Thanks!

www.innerbeauties.com - Stephanie Wolfe Ministries

www.myepicfaith.org - Epic Faith Church