

The Call to All Christians

We, as women leaders from across the globe, call on men and women of the Church to act so that women, men, girls and boys can all embrace their spiritual giftings to strengthen the work and witness of the Church, to the glory of God.

This Call is endorsed by women from diverse backgrounds united in our conviction that gender inequality and gender debates continue to be barriers that diminish the effective witness of the Church to the transforming power of the Gospel.¹

We affirm that Jesus came that we may have life in all its fullness. The Bible affirms that Jesus called, accepted, restored and equipped women so we can share and demonstrate the transforming power of the Good News.²

We are compelled, building on this Biblical foundation, to broaden our awareness, increase our attentiveness, and commit to specific actions to restore God's intention for all people.

AWARENESS

We acknowledge that:

- our communities and leadership structures have not always been encouraging, freeing or even safe for women and girls
- the pathways for women to serve as leaders in the global Church are limited, preventing many from fully using their gifts and talents
- the Church has deeply hurt many women and girls, and has not addressed their challenges.

ATTENTIVENESS

We commit to:

- being attentive to the experiences, perspectives, joys and suffering of women
- being attentive to women and girls in vulnerable populations and regions, who are at greatest risk of discrimination, violence and exclusion
- discerning the spiritual gifts of all women and girls, to draw upon resources God has given, for the full health and strength of the Church.³

ACTION

We must all take action to:

- engage in a positive dialogue, mourning and repenting of mistakes and the pain we have caused, and seeking reconciliation in our communities, in the name of Christ
- celebrate the courage, gifts, and work of women in churches around the globe
- work in unity to address the issues which concern the most vulnerable populations
- equip women and girls to take up leadership positions in the Church and wider society
- consecrate the gifts and opportunities of all women and men to further strengthen, grow and mature the Church.

¹ The Call was endorsed in November 2019 by the World Evangelical Alliance General Assembly and Lausanne International

² See Lausanne Cape Town Commitment 2010 p67-8

³ Among many verses in the Bible that support equality in gifting, roles and responsibility see Gen 1:26-28, 2:23; John 17:21-23; Acts 2:17-18; Galatians 3:28; Ephesians 5:21