

*Never Underestimate
the Power of A Single Visit!*

*Following the example of Mary and Elizabeth,
we visit and share the sacredness of all life.
(Luke 1: 39-56)*



*The story in Luke's gospel of the visitation
between Mary and Elizabeth is one of the
most profound examples of sharing faith in all
of scripture. The sanctity of life and power of
the Spirit is revealed in the common sharing
of these two women. Throughout the
generations women have repeated
this story. Elizabeth Ministry
carries on this tradition
of maternal mystery
mentoring.*

*We respect life,
cherish children,
encourage families,
enrich marriages,
and build
communities.*



*Join Elizabeth Ministers around
the world in this powerful prayer!*

Elizabeth Ministry Prayer

Creator God, I pledge to truly celebrate the gift of each child conceived and born, and fully mourn each miscarriage, abortion, stillbirth and infant or child death. I will be a witness to my belief in the dignity and worth of all life, by honoring sexuality, treasuring the gift of fertility, promoting chaste living, uplifting the sanctity of marriage, helping those struggling with sexual sins, supporting those suffering infertility problems, encouraging those in the adoptive process, and assisting families with prenatal, infant or child crisis, illness or special need. I will be a strong and consistent voice for life in my home, my church, my community, and my world. Amen.

Local Chapter Information

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International*



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Elizabeth Ministry Chapter Formation



*Offering hope and healing
for women and their families
on issues related to the joys,
challenges and sorrows of the
childbearing years.*



Elizabeth Ministry is an international movement focused on the dignity of human life and strengthening relationships in order to build up the family and create vibrant communities.

WHY ARE WE NEEDED?

In the past, the presence, intimacy, and support that is needed during the childbearing years was found in the structures of family, neighborhood, community and church. Today, these structures are undergoing rapid change. Our neighborhoods are fragmented, leaving many people isolated. Our churches have increased in size, making it very difficult to create a hospitable and loving environment. Mobility has caused many extended families to be separated by miles. That makes frequent visits impossible. Yet, the wisdom drawn from sharing stories of the joys, challenges and sorrows of marriage, intimacy and fertility issues, childbearing, parenting and other relationships is still needed. The support, guidance and reassurance, usually given by the extended family, often now needs to come from another source. One way to respond to this need is Elizabeth Ministry.

Scientific discoveries have transformed the experiences of fertility concerns, family planning and pregnancy in the past few decades. Assisted reproductive technologies have a moral, ethical and social impact that did not exist for previous generations. Elizabeth Ministry can offer information and insight in evaluating the many options.

The profound effects of a sexually promiscuous society and abortion has caused social decay and built a culture of death. The many medical, social and spiritual consequences need to be addressed. Elizabeth Ministry makes available life-giving opportunities for healing.

Elizabeth Ministry seeks to provide insight and support through sharing lived experiences, mentoring, prayer, blessings, scripture, church teachings, retreats, programs, scientific information, consultations, referrals, trainings, gifts, resources and other assistance.



Understanding the dignity of human sexuality and the power of procreation will enhance relationships, build up the family and create healthy communities!

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Elizabeth Ministry International helps churches form Elizabeth Ministry Chapters. Over 700 chapters have registered on six continents. These chapters recruit volunteers to become Elizabeth Ministry mentors in the areas they have experienced. For example, a woman who has twins would visit and mentor a woman who is pregnant with twins. Support is given throughout the pregnancy and after the birth. This support comes in the form of visits, phone calls, cards, prayer, e-mails, resources and other assistance. Elizabeth Ministers share their presence, stories, and experiences in the hope that these will encourage a woman and her family. Fathers, siblings, grandparents and others receive encouragement along with the mother. Many times an Elizabeth Minister will deliver a Gift & Resource Kit as a tangible sign of care and connectedness. An Elizabeth Minister will be a link with the local church community.

WHO MAY PARTICIPATE?

Volunteers who become Elizabeth Ministers must make a commitment to uphold the dignity and worth of all life before, during and after conception until natural death and beyond. People serve as a mentor or may participate in behind the scenes support. Men, as well as women, can join Elizabeth Ministry.

WHAT ARE THE AREAS OF INVOLVEMENT?

Each chapter selects the areas of involvement their church will address, based on experiences and interest of their members. The primary areas of chapter activity and mentoring are related to the joys, challenges and sorrows of the childbearing experience. The Elizabeth Ministry International Headquarters offers resources and enrichment opportunities for those chapters that want to include activities related to chaste living issues.

HOW DO I LEARN MORE?

Elizabeth Ministry International Headquarters has created materials with everything needed to start and maintain a Chapter of Elizabeth Ministry. Easy to follow training resources provide step-by-step detailed information. Visit Elizabeth Ministry International Headquarters website at www.elizabethministry.com to learn more!

Local Contact:



PRIMARY MINISTRY AREAS OF CONCERN

FERTILITY/INFERTILITY

- Fertility Awareness
- Natural Family Planning
- Infertility Issues
- Inability to Conceive
- Fertility Transformations
 - Onset of Menses
 - Hysterectomy
 - Menopause

PREGNANCY

- Married Pregnancy
- Unwed Pregnancy
- First Time or Subsequent
- Pregnancy Later in Life
- Pregnancy After Loss
- Complications
 - High Risk
 - Prenatal Testing
 - Fetal Abnormality
 - Bedrest

BIRTH

- Labor Support
- Celebrate Birth
 - First or Subsequent
 - Large Family
- Special Birth Outcomes
 - Multiple Births
 - Postpartum Problems
- Breastfeeding
- Parenting
- Grandparenting

ADOPTION & BLENDING

- Considering Adoption
- Waiting to Adopt
- Adoption Loss
- Celebration of Adoption
- Birth Parents
- Foster Families
- Remarriage Integration

PRENATAL, INFANT OR CHILD CRISIS

- Fetal Abnormality
- Premature Birth
- NICU
- Special Needs
- Illness or Surgery
- Impending Death

MISCARRIAGE, INFANT/CHILD LOSS

- Miscarriage
- Stillbirth
- Multiple Birth Loss
- Regretted Abortion
- Infant Death
- Child Death
- Sudden Infant Death
- Violent Death

A parish chapter is able to offer outreach in these areas if they have people who have experienced these situations and are trained as mentors.

Elizabeth Ministry International Headquarters also offers hope, healing and education on issues related to sexuality and relationships. For a complete list of services and resources, call 920-766-9380 or visit these websites!

www.ElizabethMinistry.com
www.ReclaimSexualHealth.com