



MICHELLE R. HICKS

Michelle R. Hicks is the managing editor for Journey devotional magazine and serves on the Lifeway Women leadership training team. Michelle served as a freelance writer, campus minister, and corporate chaplain before coming to Lifeway to minister with the event and publishing teams. She is a graduate of the University of North Texas (BBA), Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (MARE), and Gateway Seminary (DMin). Michelle has a deep hunger for Scripture and wants to help and encourage believers to dive into God's Word every day.

HEATHER JOHNSON

Heather Johnson is an educator and Bible teacher. She is the Assistant Director for Thrive, A Ministry Wives Certificate, at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College and a high school teacher. Heather leads small groups, provides discipleship and mentoring for women, and writes Bible study curriculum. Heather is a pastor's wife and has served alongside her husband, Mark Johnson, for over 27 years. She is currently a senior resident in the Ph.D. program for Christian Education and she and her husband enjoy life parenting their four children in New Orleans, LA.

STEPHANIE EDGE

Stephanie Edge has a passion for teaching God's Word and ministering to women. She served in Women's Ministry in the local church for sixteen years and worked in College Ministry for ten years. Stephanie graduated from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary with a Masters of Divinity. She also completed a Masters of Theology and a Doctorate of Philosophy in Christian Education from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Stephanie teaches adjunct for New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

TEGA FAAFA TAYLOR

Tega Faafa Taylor is the Brand Owner and Content Editor for Hyfi Students. She lives in the metro Atlanta, Georgia area and is a recent graduate from Dallas Theological Seminary. She also has a Neuroscience degree and has worked with various churches, camps, and conferences as a teacher/speaker, spoken word artist, and host. Tega loves sharing with students how God is relevant to today's culture, and how Jesus changes every part of our lives. Outside of ministry, Tega is a huge thrifter, loves fashion, podcasting, music, pop culture, TikTok, reading on her Kindle, and more.

TARA DOWDEN

Based in Atlanta, Georgia, Tara Dowden serves as Women's Minister to Hebron Baptist Church. Prior to serving her current church, she has volunteered in Women's Ministry for the past 21 years. Her previous occupations have included Account Executive and Journalist for Mississippi Magazine, Interior Design,

Classical Ballet Instructor, and Elementary and Middle School Teacher. She is a native Mississippian who rings her cowbell strong for the MSU Bulldogs and also passionately cheers for the LSU Tigers after marrying her husband, Landon Dowden. She and Landon have four children: Arabella, Adalaide, Adoniram, and Alastair. Her husband serves as Lead Pastor to Hebron Baptist Church, Adjunct Professor at both Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, and is the author of *Exalting Jesus in Esther* and *Exalting Jesus in Ezekiel*. Together they enjoy spending time with their children and Golden Doodle, Bouroux. Tara's focus is to center Women's Ministry around God's Word and in doing so create avenues for women to mature in their faith and share the gospel with their community. She enjoys developing ways to unify and equip women to serve. Her prayer for the women she leads echoes that of Paul's to the Philippians, "And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment so that you may approve what is excellent" (Philippians 1:9-10).