



# Men and Women in Ministry:

## A Note from the Executive Leadership Team

We are grateful that you are taking a few minutes to read about Cadence International's position regarding the roles of men and women in ministry. The Cadence Executive Leadership Team desires to promote greater clarity and understanding about these changes. We believe the following will provide helpful information toward this end.

An organizational position paper on *Men and Women in Ministry* was unanimously adopted by the Cadence Board of Directors in 2021. This position paper updated a 2005 policy on the roles of women in ministry. In moving from a policy that took a more denominational approach, this position paper aligns with and affirms Cadence's original charter to be an "evangelical, nonsectarian, and interdenominational" parachurch organization. We believe our updated position provides greater opportunities for our men and women to partner together on behalf of the gospel.

This updated position provides clear opportunities for both men and women to lead and teach in Cadence, strengthening and catalyzing our calling and mission of "sharing the gospel and our lives with the military community." The Board of Directors did not see the need for Cadence to limit its theology and practice to one sector of denominationalism on this matter.

The 2021 position paper continues to affirm Cadence's long history of embracing traditional, complementarian perspectives and practices amongst our missionary staff and ministries. It also embraces those who have different perspectives of biblical theology on this matter. Believing this to be a non-salvific, second-tier issue, Cadence encourages diligent study of the Word and robust discussion but does not believe different theological understandings of this issue necessitate division. We recruit, release, and honor

staff who live and teach from a range of biblical perspectives on men and women in ministry as we seek to love Jesus and focus on the centrality of His life, death, and resurrection.

Cadence is committed to displaying gospel unity within diversity as staff engage one another on this subject, and as they continue to live out and teach their personal convictions in their specific ministries and locations." *Cadence's Statement of Doctrine* remains as originally written since the mission's beginning in 1954 and holds Cadence's historical and enduring foundational tenants of the Christian faith, agreed upon by all who serve in the organization. Additionally, Cadence's position on *Marriage, Gender, and Human Sexuality* presents our biblical belief that God created marriage to be a sacred and covenantal union between one man and one woman.

All these documents, along with *Cadence's Core Values*, integrate to provide a solid and enduring biblical foundation upon which Cadence shares the gospel and our lives.

Cadence continues to be a Christ-centered, Bible-believing, incarnational ministry to military people and their families. We are eager to display Christ-like unity so that the world may know the love of God as prayed for by Jesus (John 17:20–26).

Thank you for standing with Cadence as we continue to bring glory to Christ and the gospel to the world He so loves.

### **In Christ's Love,**

David Schroeder, President  
Paul Bradley, VP for Affiliate and Foreign Military Ministries  
Natalie Harper, CFO/VP for Administration  
David Hutchings, VP for Field Ministries  
Brian Kleager, VP for Strategic Partnerships and PR

All documents referenced in this letter may be viewed at [Cadence.org/WhatWeBelieve](https://www.cadence.org/WhatWeBelieve).