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MARCH EDITION 2026

Special Edition

The Audacious 30

■ FINANCIAL FREEDOM
RESTORES DIGNITY, HOPE,
AND LEGACY

- Dr. Evangelist Bertha D. Winston

■ BREAKING BARRIERS, BUILDING
LEGACIES: WOMEN REDEFINING
POWER IN 2026

■ HEALTH BENEFITS OF
DRINKING LEMON AND
CINNAMON



Meet

Dr. Evang. Bertha Winston

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From the Editor's Desk

GLEBM International Women's Day Special Edition 30 Audacious Women in 2026

Today, March 8, 2026, as the world marks International Women's Day, GLEBM Magazine is proud to release a special commemorative edition honoring 30 Audacious Women to Watch in 2026, leaders whose bold decisions, strategic vision, and measurable impact are shaping the year ahead.

International Women's Day is not merely a date on the calendar. It is a global moment of reflection, accountability, and renewed commitment to equity. It calls attention to progress made, barriers that persist, and the work still required. In that spirit, this special edition does more than celebrate achievement, it documents momentum.

The women featured in this issue are founders, executives, policymakers, technologists, creatives, and community architects who understand that influence carries responsibility. They are redefining leadership not through rhetoric, but through results. Their work advances innovation, expands access, builds sustainable enterprises, and reimagines systems that were never designed with inclusivity at their core.

Across industries, a common thread emerges: these leaders are not

waiting for permission. They are shaping markets, setting standards, and designing frameworks that prioritize long-term value over short-term optics.

What distinguishes this year's honorees is not only what they have accomplished, but where they are headed. GLEBM's selection process emphasized trajectory, scalability, and sustained impact. We sought women whose current work signals transformative influence in 2026 and beyond.

Their leadership reflects four defining qualities:
Strategic Courage: Acting decisively before consensus forms.
Purpose-Driven Performance: Aligning profitability with responsibility.

Inclusive Power: Elevating teams, communities, and future leaders.
Resilient Innovation: Turning disruption into opportunity.
International Women's Day reminds us that representation alone is not the destination, impact is. When women lead at scale, industries evolve. Governance strengthens. Economies expand. Communities thrive.

This edition is both celebration and call to action.

Recognition must translate into

reinforcement, through investment, partnership, mentorship, and policy support. Visibility must lead to opportunity. Applause must become access.

As we commemorate International Women's Day 2026, GLEBM reaffirms its commitment to spotlighting leadership that moves the needle. The 30 Audacious Women to Watch in 2026 are not symbols of possibility, they are architects of progress.

The future is not approaching. It is being built, deliberately, strategically, and unapologetically, by women who refuse to shrink their vision. Today, we celebrate them. Tomorrow, we support them. Always, we learn from them. ■



Shirley Murphy

“I am an audacious woman because I chose purpose over fear, truth over silence, and impact over comfort”

Dr. Evang. Bertha Winston



Breaking Barriers, Building Legacies: Women Redefining Power in 2026

Shirley Murphy

Progress does not move forward simply because a new year arrives. It moves because someone decides that what exists is no longer enough and chooses to do something about it. In 2026, women across industries are not simply occupying leadership roles; they are redefining what leadership looks like through lived experience, hard decisions, and deeply personal conviction.

For many years, the focus was on gaining access. Women worked relentlessly to earn titles, visibility, and a seat at tables where major decisions were being made. Those victories were important and hard-won. However, something deeper has shifted. The conversation is no longer centered only on entry. It is centered on impact. Women are now asking whether the systems they worked so hard to enter are actually worth preserving in their current form.

The women shaping 2026 are not driven solely by ambition. They are driven by memory. They remember what it felt like to be overlooked in meetings. They remember the promotions that never came. They remember the times their ideas were dismissed, only to be praised when repeated by someone else. They remember the weight of balancing professional expectations with personal responsibilities that few acknowledged. Their leadership today reflects those experiences.

This is precisely why GLEBM chose to celebrate these women. As a platform committed to



spotlighting excellence across industries, GLEBM understands what it means to break barriers in spaces that were not designed for you. The decision to honor these leaders is not symbolic. It is intentional recognition of women who have not only navigated obstacles but have transformed them into stepping stones for others.

Breaking a barrier often happens in a moment. Building a legacy happens over time. Breaking a barrier may come with recognition and applause. Building a legacy requires discipline long after the applause fades.

The women redefining power in 2026 understand that courage is not a one-time act. It is a repeated

decision. It is returning to difficult conversations. It is advocating for policies that may not be popular but are necessary. It is holding firm to values when compromise would be easier and more comfortable.

Many of these leaders are managing realities that rarely appear in headlines. They are building businesses while caring for aging parents. They are navigating personal loss while guiding teams through uncertainty. They are healing from experiences that once silenced them while now mentoring others to speak. Their strength is not abstract. It is practiced daily.

Leadership itself is evolving because women are refusing to replicate models that once

excluded them. The older blueprint of leadership rewarded control, dominance, and hierarchy. The emerging blueprint values collaboration, transparency, and accountability. Women are creating spaces where people are invited to contribute rather than compete. They are designing environments where safety and performance coexist rather than oppose one another.

In business, profit still matters, but purpose matters alongside it. Women are increasingly unwilling to sacrifice long-term integrity for short-term wins. They are examining supply chains, rethinking hiring practices, and evaluating the social impact of their decisions. They are asking themselves whether the choices they make today will still feel right years from now. That level of reflection changes outcomes.

Legacy, in 2026, is not something reserved for retirement speeches. It is something being constructed daily. It is present in the mentee who gains confidence because someone believed in her early. It is visible in the policy that prevents harm for someone the leader may never meet. It is reflected in children who grow up watching women lead with conviction, integrity, and compassion.

This Is the Shift

The women redefining power in 2026 are not waiting for systems to evolve on their own. They are evolving them. They are not asking whether they belong in the room. They are asking what must change because they are in it. That difference is everything. Breaking barriers was necessary. It required grit, sacrifice, and courage that often went unseen. However, building legacies requires something even greater. It requires vision beyond the present



moment. It requires restraint when recognition tempts ego. It requires faith when progress feels slow. It requires the willingness to build structures that may benefit others more than oneself.

GLEBM recognizes that these women are not simply leaders. They are architects of change. They know firsthand what it costs to challenge the norm, to rise after rejection, and to build in environments that were not originally built for them. Celebrating them is more than acknowledgment. It is affirmation that their work matters and that their impact extends far beyond

individual success.

The true measure of leadership is not how high one rises, but how many rises because she did.

In 2026, women are no longer simply breaking barriers to walk through doors. They are reinforcing the hinges, widening the frames, and ensuring that those doors never close again. They are designing systems their daughters will not have to survive but will be able to thrive within.

This is not a trend. It is a transformation.

And it is only the beginning. ■



Dr. Evangelist Bertha D. Winston

Dr. Evangelist Bertha D. Winston is a distinguished financial empowerment strategist, award-winning author, international speaker, and humanitarian whose life's work is dedicated to helping individuals achieve financial independence and purposeful living. Recognized globally for her leadership and impact, she is the recipient of the 2024 GLEBM Leadership Excellence Award in Financial Coaching and Consulting, the 2024 President's Lifetime Achievement Award (awarded twice in 2024), and an Honorary Humanitarian Doctorate conferred in September 2024.

With a career that bridges finance, faith, and transformational leadership, Dr. Winston has become a trusted voice in personal development and wealth-building education. After retiring from a 15-year tenure as an office manager at a prestigious law firm in Washington, D.C., she launched a new mission: equipping individuals with the tools, strategies, and mindset required to eliminate debt, build passive income streams, and create lasting financial security. Through coaching, consulting, and global speaking engagements, she empowers clients to move beyond survival and step into sustainable prosperity.

Dr. Winston's influence extends far beyond financial strategy. Her work has been featured on the covers and pages of prominent publications including *Forbes One*, *Author Allstars Magazine* (twice), *Black Woman Magazine*, *Soigné + Swank Magazine*, *Nspire Magazine*, and *GLEBM Magazine*. She graced the front cover of *Women Empowered to Win Global Magazine* for Mother's Day and has been highlighted in *Growth Illustrated*, *Disrupt Weekly*, *What's On Your Mind Media*, and *Vocal Media*. Her expertise has also been recognized by major media outlets such as CBS, Fox News, and NBC News. In addition, she was featured on a billboard honoring the 2024 Top Women in Business and Ministry and named among the Top 20 Authors in *Author Allstars Magazine* in both 2023 and 2024.

A prolific author, Dr. Winston has contributed to and

authored numerous first-time bestselling works, including *Unshakable Faith*, *Redirect, Redefine & Renew You*, *Love Like You've Never Been Hurt*, *Empowered to Win* (4th Edition), and the *Women Empowered to Win Anthology*.

Additional impactful titles include *Love, Lead and Let Go*, *The Glory of His Presence*, *9 Voices 1 Message* (introduced in Toronto, Canada), *Love Doesn't Hurt*, *My Test, My Testimony*, and *The Empowered Me*. Her global reach expanded with *The Glory of His Presence Vol. 2* (Nigeria) and *Perspectives on Invisible Illnesses and Voices of Change*, introduced in Ghana in January 2025 at the inaugural Leadership Conference held at Cape Coast Castle. Her latest release, *The Path to Financial Independence*, reinforces her unwavering commitment to equipping individuals with practical financial strategies rooted in discipline, faith, and vision.

In 2025, Dr. Winston was recognized among the Top 20 Impactful Women Leaders to Watch, affirming her decades-long dedication to service, mentorship, and transformative leadership.

More than a financial coach, Dr. Winston is a mentor, motivator, and faith-driven educator who blends biblical principles with financial literacy to inspire holistic transformation. Her work emphasizes that financial freedom is not merely about numbers, it is about unlocking the capacity to live with purpose, prosperity, and peace.

Today, she remains fervently engaged in teaching individuals how to build passive income, retire debt-free, and design lives aligned with clarity and conviction. Her legacy continues to expand as she empowers people worldwide to move from financial limitation to generational wealth and stability. ■

To learn more about Dr. Evangelist Bertha D. Winston and her work, visit www.retiredanddebtfree.com or connect on social media at [@thewinstonexperience](https://www.instagram.com/thewinstonexperience).

Financial Freedom Restores Dignity, Hope, and Legacy

- Dr. Evangelist Bertha D. Winston

Dr. Evangelist Bertha D. Winston does not speak about financial freedom from theory; she speaks from experience.

Having navigated seasons of abuse, financial hardship, rebuilding, and even a breast cancer diagnosis, she understands firsthand what it means to feel uncertain about the future and determined to change it. Today, as an international financial educator, bestselling author, and speaker, she equips women and families with practical tools to eliminate debt, build passive income, and regain control of their lives.

For Dr. Winston, financial freedom is not about luxury or status. It is about dignity for the single mother trying to rebuild, hope for the family living paycheck to paycheck, and legacy for the next generation watching how resilience turns into stability. Her work focuses on clarity, discipline, and faith-driven decision-making, helping people move from survival mode to sustainable independence.

She leads with transparency, openly sharing her own journey while guiding others through theirs. That honesty, combined with practical financial strategy,



Dr. Evangelist Bertha D. Winston

has made her a trusted voice for women and families who are ready to reclaim their future.

When Pain Refines Purpose

Surviving abuse and later facing breast cancer required a level of endurance that reshaped her identity and strengthened her faith in ways few could fully comprehend. These experiences tested not only her physical and emotional strength but also her spiritual foundation, compelling her to confront fear and redefine what it meant to lead.

“Those experiences stripped away fear and taught me that my life had purpose beyond pain,” she reflects. “It shaped me into a woman who leads with

compassion, clarity, and courage.”

Instead of allowing trauma to define her ending, she transformed it into a catalyst for empowerment. Her work today is not detached from her past; it is informed by it.

She speaks to women not as an observer, but as someone who has walked through darkness and emerged determined to bring light.

Impact Beyond Titles

While Dr. Winston holds numerous accolades as an international financial educator, bestselling author, and global speaker, she measures success differently.

Her greatest impact has been on women, families, seniors, and everyday individuals seeking stability and restoration through financial literacy.

“Helping someone eliminate debt, gain clarity, or believe they can still build a future matters to me because financial freedom restores dignity, hope, and legacy, not just bank accounts,” she says.

Her programs and teachings emphasize that money management is not merely about income but about identity, security, and generational positioning. Financial empowerment, in her philosophy,

becomes a spiritual act of stewardship and restoration.

Leadership That Calms and Clarifies

Those who encounter Dr. Winston often describe her presence as calming yet commanding, bringing clarity into spaces clouded by overwhelm. She leads with both wisdom and warmth, combining strategic instruction with compassion that allows people to feel safe enough to confront their realities.

“People often say I bring calm clarity and confidence into spaces that feel overwhelming,” she shares. “I create environments where people feel seen, empowered, and capable of moving forward.”

Her leadership does not intimidate; it elevates. It reassures while it challenges, affirming that progress is not only possible but attainable through disciplined action and faith-driven consistency.

Anchored in Faith, Driven by Assignment

When uncertainty arises, Dr. Winston returns to the foundation that has sustained her through every trial: faith.

“My faith keeps me grounded and my purpose keeps me moving,” she explains. “I know I am called to help others rise beyond limitation.”

Her endurance is fueled by the understanding that her obedience influences generations she may never meet. Comfort has never been her compass; calling has.

Finding Voice Without Permission

Visibility can intimidate even the



Dr. Evangelist Bertha D. Winston

most accomplished women, yet Dr. Winston discovered that confidence emerges when validation is no longer required.

“I embraced the truth that my voice was given to me on purpose,” she says. “Confidence came when I realized I did not need permission to stand in what God had already entrusted to me.”

That shift in mindset transformed hesitation into boldness and silence into influence. She no longer seeks approval for her assignment; she honors it.

A Message for the Next Generation

If her journey were distilled into a single message, it would echo with resilience and hope.

“Your past does not disqualify you. Your pain can become purpose and your voice matters even when it shakes,” she declares. “Keep going even when the path looks unclear because resilience writes a story others will survive by.”

Her words resonate not as motivational clichés but as lived testimony, carrying the authority of experience.

Building Generational Freedom

As 2026 unfolds, Dr. Winston is intentionally constructing a legacy rooted in financial empowerment, faith-driven leadership, and generational freedom. Through books, programs, mentorship, and global platforms, she is creating systems designed to outlast trends and transcend temporary recognition.

“I am intentionally building a legacy of financial empowerment, faith-driven leadership, and generational freedom,” she affirms. “I am creating platforms and spaces that help people live debt-free, purpose-driven, and unafraid to dream again.”

“I am an audacious woman because I chose purpose over fear, truth over silence, and impact over comfort.”

A Story Worth Highlighting

The milestone she hopes to see recognized is not merely professional achievement but personal transformation, the journey from surviving abuse and breast cancer to becoming an international financial educator, bestselling author, and global speaker empowering others to reclaim their futures.

Her life demonstrates that financial clarity and spiritual conviction can coexist powerfully, and that resilience, when paired with purpose, produces influence that cannot be silenced.

Dr. Bertha Winston’s leadership is not loud, yet it is undeniable. It restores dignity, builds clarity, and reminds women everywhere that their voice matters and their story carries transformative power. ■

Health Benefits of Drinking Lemon and Cinnamon Tea



Lemon (often as warm lemon water) Hydration support: If lemon makes you drink more water, it can improve energy, digestion comfort, and focus. Vitamin C + antioxidants: Lemon adds vitamin C and beneficial plant compounds that support overall wellness.

Digestive comfort: Warm fluids can help some people feel less “sluggish” in the morning.

Kidney stone support (for some): Lemon contains citrate, which may help reduce risk of certain calcium kidney stones when used consistently.

Important note: Lemon is acidic, so frequent sipping can wear tooth enamel. Rinse your mouth with plain water after drinking and wait about 30 minutes before brushing.

Cinnamon (added to drinks or food)

Blood sugar support: Cinnamon

may modestly improve fasting blood sugar and insulin sensitivity, especially for people with prediabetes or type 2 diabetes (results vary).

Anti-inflammatory + antioxidant benefits:

Cinnamon is rich in protective plant compounds. Helps reduce added sugar: It adds flavor and “sweetness,” which can help you cut down on sugary add-ins. Important note: Most store-bought cinnamon is Cassia, which can be high in coumarin (too much daily can stress the liver). Ceylon cinnamon (“true cinnamon”) is generally safer for regular use.

Lemon + Cinnamon together.

This combination can be a simple, low-calorie wellness habit that supports hydration, adds antioxidants, and may help with blood sugar steadiness (mostly from cinnamon). It works best as part of a bigger routine: balanced meals,

movement, sleep, and stress management.

Safety reminders to mention

If you have acid reflux/GERD, lemon may worsen symptoms. If you take blood thinners or diabetes medication, cinnamon can interact, use caution and check with a clinician. A common daily range is ½ teaspoon cinnamon (preferably Ceylon); avoid high daily doses of Cassia long-term.

Conclusion

Lemon and cinnamon can be beneficial because they support hydration, provide antioxidants, and may gently support blood sugar balance, but they are not a “detox” cure or a shortcut to weight loss. The real value is consistency: choosing small daily habits that protect your energy, your metabolism, and your long-term health, while using them safely in a way your body can tolerate. ■