

**EMPOWERING MORE PEOPLE  
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My warmest greetings to all of you! I know all of you are tirelessly working for others. But even the brightest light can burn out. So I want to share some very practical guidance that SGI Women's Leader Yumiko Hachiya shared at the CEC about staying refreshed.

First of all, she reminded us that we practice faith to improve our life, not to burn it out. She emphasized that the times are rapidly changing and there are great demands on all our busy lives. We need to find new ways of leadership, so that no one feels they have to do it all.

Team leadership may be the best way. Try to give each person one specific thing to focus on. This way, no one becomes overwhelmed. Instead of dual positions, we should utilize more and more people.

Ask for help—it's amazing how many of us won't do that, thinking this person is too busy, doesn't want to or isn't ready yet. But when given reasonable responsibility, most people want to respond to our trust.

We should set real leadership terms. Many people would take responsibility for a set time.

These were just some of the ideas Mrs. Hachiya shared, encouraging us to be creative and work together to find the best way for our local organization.

We should empower more people—let's take a chance in 2001.