

# WOMEN'S MINISTRY ICEBREAKERS/ CONNECTION ACTIVITIES

- Church is a great place to connect with other believers. But worship is not the only path to fellowship. It's also important to build relationships around joy and shared experiences. Plus, **spending time** with other believers can help draw you closer to God.

*“And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another...” (Hebrews 10:24-25a)*

- The ideas below are a few **fun activities** for women's ministries. The goal behind these is to understand how your friends think, know what they've gone through, and start a discussion on personal and spiritual experiences. Remember that using a **church management software** can help you plan these activities with tools for communication and organization!

## LESS INTERACTIVE ICEBREAKER GAMES

### **1. The One You Can't Live Without**

Here's a fun, lighthearted activity to begin any Bible study or session with. Start by getting everybody to sit in a circle with their bags. Have them browse through the contents of their bag, and identify which item is the most important thing inside. Once everybody has their answers, go around the room and interview them, similar to how a show-and-tell activity works. Ask what item they chose, why they chose that object, and how different their day would be if that item isn't in their bag.

This is the perfect game for your members to get to know each other, as they'll see what their friends prioritize in their daily living. If you want to make it a bit more interesting and less repetitive, you can also have a list of “not-counted items” such as the typical credit cards, cash, and house keys that everybody obviously needs. That way, the answers will be more unique to each individual.

### **2. What Would You Do?**

This activity is a good icebreaker if your church group plans to study women in the Bible.

Start by talking about a particular Biblical woman – such as Ruth, Esther, Deborah, Hannah, Mary of Nazareth, or Mary Magdalene. Tell her story and what she did. Be as detailed as possible with the decisions she made and what her train of thought may have been while going through challenges. After, discuss with the group what *they* would have done if they were in the same situation.

For example, Ruth was told to leave her homeland and follow whatever her mother-in-law said. With great faith and obedience, she followed the will of her family matriarch. Ruth said, “Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God” (Ruth 1:16b).

Would the women in your group do the same? What would they have done differently? Ask them to expound on their answers. Consider having a board to list the answers of each woman in your group. By doing so, everybody can see how others think and get to know each other better.

End the activity by emphasizing *why* these biblical women pushed through and came out triumphant.

### **3. Basket of Blessings**

It's easy to get caught up in life and focus too much on negativity. But when we open our eyes to the good things we've received in life, we see that God *is* blessing us daily.

Sit in a circle and ask everyone to share one way that God has blessed them that day, week, or month. For every blessing they share, have them write it down on a small piece of paper and drop it in a basket. After their turn, they pass the basket to the woman beside them, and the activity continues until the basket is filled to the brim with written blessings.

End the activity by reading all the blessings in the basket. Sharing testimonies of how God is working and what He has done can be deeply encouraging.

## **INTERACTIVE ICEBREAKER GAMES**

- If your group wants something more fun, interactive, and competitive, here are a few games for your women's ministry.

### **1. High School Memories Bingo**

This game is the perfect icebreaker for reminiscing about the good ol' days of high school while sharing more about yourself with your church friends. List as many high school memories as you can, format them like a Bingo card chart, and print enough copies for everyone in the group. Here are a few examples of the prompts:

- "Played an instrument"
- "Got sent to detention"
- "Went to prom with a crush"
- "Took the bus to school"
- "Was part of a sports varsity team"

Once printed, distribute the cards along with a pencil. When the game starts, everybody will go around the room, look for someone who's done the particular prompt, and write the person's name on the respective box in the chart. The first person to fill up the entire sheet should then shout "Bingo!" and win the game.

To make things more interactive, have the winner go through the list of names they collected, and have the person who did the prompt tell more about their high school experience. This activity is a great way to learn something new about what your friends were like back in their younger years.

## 2. Who Do You Trust? (Leading the Blind)

Illustrate what it's like to trust God to handle any situation by having a "leading the blind" game. You can make it more competitive by giving a prize to the pair who completes the course the fastest or with the fewest bumbles.

Start by pairing the women in teams of two and blindfolding one of them. The one who can see has to lead her "blind" partner to complete certain tasks and go over obstacles *only* by speaking to them. They shouldn't touch or hold their blindfolded partner, so trust and communication will be key.

The blindfolded player will have to carefully listen to and follow the guidance given by their partner. If she doesn't follow the steps, she will eat up too much time or run into obstacles. The tasks can involve completing a simple kid's puzzle, going around a tree, or separating different colored candies.

Once they regroup, explain that God will always help us move in the right direction – even when we can't see or understand what He wants us to accomplish. "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand" (Isaiah 41:10).

## 3. Which Biblical Woman Am I?

There are plenty of memorable women in the Bible that we can all learn from. Create cards with Bible passages and a few facts about these role models, and then have the women in your group guess who they are. It's a great way to have friendly competition while reviewing key women in the Bible.

Here are a few biblical women to get started with:

- **Ruth:** After her husband died, she followed her mother-in-law Naomi to Israel, where she met Boaz. They eventually became the great grandparents of King David, propagating the lineage of the Messiah.
- **Esther:** She helped establish a safe place to worship for Israel and used her political influence to rule as a Jewish queen in a Gentile nation.
- **Mary of Nazareth:** She gave birth to Jesus when she was a virgin teenager, playing a unique role in God's story to save mankind.

You can also include other well-known names such as Mary Magdalene, Rachel, Hannah, Eve, Deborah, Miriam, Sarah, Elizabeth, Priscilla, Mary of Bethany, Martha, Jehosheba, and more.

Create as many cards as possible and mix them up in a container or basket. Then, have each woman choose a card and read the facts aloud without saying the name of the biblical woman written on their card. All the other women in the group must guess who she picked.

You can also play this game in teams, where the team with the most correct answers wins the game.

If your group is already familiar with all the biblical characters, you can make the game harder by removing all of the facts and asking participants to create their own clues.