

6 Steps to Creating a Womens Ministry Network



For many ministries today, the focus has shifted to connecting with women online through social media such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, but nothing can take the place of meeting face to face with one another. You may have a handful of women who you meet with regularly, but have you ever thought about creating a meeting with other women's ministry leaders in your area? You'd be amazed at what you can glean from time spent with women's ministry leaders from other churches. Through a network, you're likely to find laughter, prayer, encouragement, new friendships, and fresh ideas. Here are a few simple steps to get a women's ministry network started in your community.

1. **Pray.** Like everything you do within your ministry, prayer should be the first step. Be sure to talk to God about your vision and ask for his guidance.
2. **Dream about what could be.** Why do you want to start a women's ministry network? What benefits do you envision coming from time spent with like-minded women who have a heart for ministry? Think about what might happen in your community if women from all churches came together to support one another.
3. **Set a date and location.** You will most likely see the best turnout for your first meeting if you find a location that isn't associated with any church, like a coffee shop or library. This helps everyone feel like equal partners in this adventure. After your first meeting, you might rotate to different churches or locations each time you meet, inviting everyone to host over time.
4. **Make contact.** Create a welcoming invitation expressing your desire to meet with others to share ideas, and send this invitation out to women's ministry leaders in your community. Even if you don't know their names, you can send these via their church addresses. (But if you do know their names, be sure to use them!)

5. **Get started.** At your first meeting, leave plenty of time for getting to know each other. Share your heart and vision for starting a network of women's ministry leaders in your community. Invite everyone to share ideas for discussion topics for upcoming gatherings. Decide how often you want to meet. Create a master contact list so everyone can stay in touch.
6. **Keep it going.** This is the hardest part. Once you get it going, someone needs to facilitate helping the group continue. This involves choosing a host location, deciding on the topic for discussion, and keeping everyone in the loop in a timely manner. Remember, this doesn't have to all fall on your shoulders. We are all in women's ministry together.

Have you met with other women's ministry leaders in your area? We'd love to hear about the successes and challenges you've had in organizing a women's ministry network! Share in the comment box below.