



Dear Kris, we've recently established a committee in our church to reach out to, specifically, single women. Since the committee is very small we are in desperate need of ideas. We've brainstormed several projects that the Lord has laid on our heart to minister to these women, but we are still not sure how to start. We are thinking of having a mentoring program, connect them to social resources in the community, include childcare and overall pour into them. So please help! –Jacqueline S.

Dear Jacqueline, thanks for wanting pour into single women. In all ministries, you need to make sure you have the basics. A core group (sounds like you have this) that is willing builds more leaders, public relations, and consistent prayer (download free guide to how to start a singles ministry). Prayer so that you know what direction to go, leadership so you won't get burnout and you protect future growth and public relations so that you keep your pastors, church and other leaders informed of what you are doing.

Also, conducting a demographic study of your church members and community will help you:

1) Identify possible other leaders/volunteers

2) Identify those to whom you should minister too:

-Within your church

-Outside your church (lost, on drugs/addicted, homeless, professional women, women in church but not plugged in, women that are young with small kids never married, women with grown kids, women with live-in adult children, women that are divorced or widowed, women living at a local shelter, women in prison, women in the military, women of other faiths or culture, etc.)

3) Decide on what topics to teach/share:

-Finances/budgeting

-Relationship with family, kids, parents

-Dating

-Health/self-image

-Home/repair

-Car/insurance

-Traveling

-Divorce recovery/Grief recovery

4) Decide on ways to teach/share the topics:

-Small Groups/Sunday School

-Bible study/book club

-Workshops/training



- One-day events/retreats/conferences
- Working with other churches
- Community and church festivals/fairs
- Advertisement

Remember, its always best to start with who you know versus who don't know. Also, to minister where you are versus where you are not. Be sure to also find out what other churches are doing in your area that might be a support to you including your own women's ministry. You might be able to do some events/bible studies/road trips together.

You can always start working towards an area and see what doors God opens up and what doors he closes.

As you meet, pray, research, network with other churches/ministries you will begin to see the direction you need to go. I would also encourage you to start simple, allowing God to bring the resources together, the woman power, etc

Blessings, Kris