

“GETTING TO KNOW YOU” GAMES

These are games that you can use to get acquainted with each other in your small group, however long you have been together!

Two Truths and a Lie

As in any church, it's great when in small groups we practice lying to each other! No, of course, not, but this is a way to get to know each other a little more, whether the group is brand new, or has been together for years! Go around the circle and have each person share three things about their self, one of them being a lie. See if they can deceive the rest of the group away from that which is false about them. The fun comes when all three are completely absurd facts!

I've Never...

The object of the game is to help people get to know one another better. As in all great games, the winner is determined by eliminating everyone! To play, have everyone in a circle holding up ten fingers. Start at random and work around the room by having each person share something they have never done, i.e. “I have never worked food service.” Whoever HAS worked food service has to put one finger down. The game is played until everyone is eliminated but one. Several rounds can be played with no repeats allowed.

Encouragement

Pass out a pen and several 3x5 cards to everyone so that each person has one card for each person in the room. Have everyone write something encouraging about everyone in the room/group and pass them around (or as leader collect them). When done, each person will have a stack of encouragement cards that highlight strengths and character traits that others celebrate. Do it anonymously if you like! *Blend this “game” with “Prayer Jar” for a neat way to celebrate the group and the time that you all have spent together.*

Prayer Jar

Have an empty jar for your small group filled with answers prayers that you as a group can celebrate at the end of the year. Pass around 3x5 cards having each person write out an answer to prayer or something they celebrate in the life of the group that has been an encouragement or formative element, i.e. “I am so blessed by the times we have spent with one another in prayer.” Or, “God answered my prayer for a sound, Christian community in the members of this group.”

Who Is It?

Hand everyone in the room a 3x5 card. Have them all write down 4 things about themselves that no one else in the room should know. Have them put their name on the top of the card for future reference. Collect the cards. Then pass out a piece of paper to each person. Read the cards one at a time and have everyone write down who they think the person on the card is. Then read off the correct results (the names from the top of the cards) while the individuals check their lists. The person who gets the most right is the winner.

Who Am I?

Take a pile of 3x5 cards and write down a name of a person or character on each card. These names can be seasonal (Winter: Santa, Frosty, Jack Frost, etc.) or follow a theme (Superheroes: Batman, Superman, The Hulk, etc.). Then tape a card to the back of every person in the room. They must now try to guess who they are by going around the room asking other people questions about the name on their back. These questions must be yes-no questions (ex. Q. "Am I green?" A. "Yes") and only one question can be asked to each person in the room (to get everyone talking to everyone else). The first person to guess the name on their back is the winner.

The List

Make a list of statements that may be true about the individuals in your group. The list should say "Find someone who...." at the top and look something like this:

- likes to eat liver and onions
- has visited Japan
- is wearing pink socks
- can burp "Row, Row, Row, Your Boat"
- ate at McDonald's today

The list can be as long or as short as you like, be creative, the sillier the better. Pass out one copy of the list to each person. Then have the individuals go around the room getting the items on the list signed off by people in the group who may fit one of the descriptions. A person may only sign a sheet one time. After a short span of time (I like to play a song or two) have them stop. The person with the most signatures is the winner.

People Bingo

Make a list of about 25 different facts (i.e. "someone who's parent wears dentures!") and lay it out on a B I N G O format. The object is to get 5 spaces in a row or blackout (All spaces full). It is an interesting and fun crowd breaker type game. In order to fill the spaces you need to find another person who matches one of the qualities or facts listed and then have them sign their name on the appropriate square.

4 On a Couch

The goal is to get 4 guys or 4 gals on a couch (that seats 4), or on 4 chairs in a row.

1. Have everyone write down their name on a piece of paper. Then gather the papers together into a hat/box/etc..
2. Next, have everyone draw out a name, that is now who they are.
3. There should be enough chairs for everyone plus one. Designate the 4 chairs that must be filled with all guys/gals. start with 2 of each in this spot.
4. Now, there should be one empty chair. Whoever is sitting to the right of the empty chair has to call someone's name. Whoever is now that person (has that name on the piece of

paper) must move to the empty spot and switch paper 'names' with the person who called the name. The group now knows who one person is.>

5. The person to the right of the new hole vacated by the person who just moved calls a name (no calling the same name twice in a row!!). That person then moves to the new hole.

The game continues like this. Those with the best memory will do really well. The object is to 'pull' the people of the opposite sex off of the couch and replace them with members of the same sex.