

Adventurous Child April 2014– Revised

Adventure in Faith 2013– 2014

Three part meeting on childhood, sharing, friendship and encouragement

Hot potato

Photo sharing

Encouraging Cards

Supplies:

White Board (or something similar)

CD Player

Christian children’s sing-a-long CD

Small stuffed animal

Snacks that children love – Goldfish, animal crackers, candy, juice boxes

(I put snacks on Barbie plates and had Barbie cups to fill cups up with snacks)

Ask women participating to bring a childhood photo of themselves

Multi-colored index cards or blank greeting card with an envelope (no envelope is needed if you’re using an index card)

Pens, sharpies

Enough chairs for everyone there

Part 1 – Hot Potato! A simple and favorite childhood game adapted to become a sharing activity. Create a circle with the chairs, facing each other. Using the CD player and Christian children’s sing-a-long (up-beat and fast paced) as the music to play by, have someone who’s not playing (I grabbed my husband) stop the music every 5 – 25 seconds. He was mindful to make sure it stopped on every person. When the music stops on them, they are to choose one of the questions to answer. Once everyone has answered once, move on to part two.

One a whiteboard placed right behind the circle, write:

Something you are proud of.

Something you love to do.

A goal you have.

Part 2 – Photo sharing – Ask the women to get out the childhood photos, remaining in the circle, go one by one sharing about that photo and what you were like as a child sharing about their personality traits and likes. Also, share who was their best friend as a child and do they still know them. Depending on time and amount of women present, you may need to ask them to share for no more than 2 minutes.

Part 3 – Encouraging – Share – “Something that every child needs as they are growing up from friends and family is encouragement and words of affirmation. We are here to build our friendships together and solidify our sisterhood in Christ, so now we will take time to encourage one another.”

Give each woman a card and have her first write her name on one side (or on the envelope if you’re using a blank greeting card). Then collect the cards from everyone, put them in a box or basket and mix them up. Go back around and have the women draw a card, if they get their own name put it back and draw again.

Once everyone has a card with someone else's name, they are to write an encouraging and affirming sentence or two to that person. Remind that person of the reasons you love them, or if you don't know them that well, comment on their smiling face, or share your favorite scripture, find a way to show that person love and acceptance.

After everyone is done writing their cards out, go one by one and have them read their message of encouragement out loud for the whole group to hear. Once the first person has read their card to the person (b) they wrote to, they hand that person (b) their card. Now that person (b) reads the card they just wrote out loud to person (c) who they wrote to and had it to person (c). Now person (c) see reads her card to person (d) and so on and so forth.

Once all the cards have been read close the meeting as usual.

