

CBWC Women in Focus Ministry Idea

Stories with a Purpose: Marleen Bahr has been encouraging the women of her church to begin sharing their stories with one another. At West Van, they held a one-day retreat at the church where they studied the Scriptures together. Using an object that signified a significant time in their life, they were encouraged to share with one another after one member shared her struggle with breast cancer. It was a powerful day. Another time, they had an evening session using the following outline:

Welcome and Opening words of information.

Devotional: Jeremiah 29:11 and introduction of John and John's introduction of Jesus from John chapter 1. The questions we want to ask ourselves tonight are: **"Who Am I?"**, **"What is my story?"**, **"Why tell my story?"** and **"Why listen to your story?"**

Demonstration: Emma introduces Francesca (use sheet of questions). When this public interview is completed turn and introduce her to the whole group.

Questionnaire: Using the questionnaire, face your partner and exchange answers so as to be able to introduce each other to your table (this should take about 5 minutes each). Now each couple introduces each other to the other four women at the table. This will take approximately 15 to 18 minutes. When introductions are completed it will be time for a break.

Coffee Break then back to small groups

Sharing: Women who wish to share their story will be encouraged to pick up their article of interest from the table at the front before sharing. At the end of the evening have two or three people close in prayer.