

**FROM
TONY
JEARY**

ICE BREAKERS

A CHORUS OF VOICES

WHAT

A getting acquainted exercise that helps participants meet each other using choruses of well known hymns or worship songs.

HOW

1. Find several well-known choruses from hymns or worship songs.
2. Write them out on 3" x 5" cards, but put only one line of each chorus per card. For example, a 5-line chorus would be on 5 cards. Shuffle the cards and distribute them to participants as they arrive. Tell them they need to complete their choruses by seeking out the missing lines. They should form groups as their choruses are completed.
3. When all participants have found their groups, have each group introduce themselves and sing (or say) their choruses!

DISCUSSION

None

MATERIALS

3" x 5" card

TIME REQUIRED

15-20 minutes



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ICE BREAKERS

ME, TOO!

WHAT

A demonstration of the things we often hold in common with strangers, to help people to feel more at ease when they greet new people at church or when they witness or minister to people they don't know.

HOW

1. Ask group members to take a notepad and pen and find a partner as quickly as possible. Have them write their partner's name on the top of their notepad.
2. Once everyone has a partner, ask the participants to find anything they might have in common and write them down under that person's name on their notepad. (Commonalities could include number of children, marital status, college degrees, hometowns, hobbies, sports, favorite TV programs, etc. The only subjects that are off limits are "politics and religion.")
3. After 3 or 4 minutes, have participants switch partners and repeat the exercise, using a new sheet of paper for each partner. Switch once or twice more, depending on group size, before stopping the activity.

DISCUSSION

1. Did any pairs find more than 10 things they had in common? Did anyone find any surprising or unusual commonalities?
2. Is it likely that in most situations, we have more in common with strangers than we originally think, even those outside the church? What does this mean for us as members of the Body of Christ when we may be too shy to strike up a conversation with someone in order to greet them or minister to them?

MATERIALS

Notepads and pens

TIME REQUIRED

15 to 20 minutes

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OPEN MINDS

WHAT

A way to prepare attendees to focus their minds 100% on the ministry meeting, leaving behind all thoughts of things they have to do. (Perhaps pastors should try doing this in their sermons!)

HOW

1. Have group members write down everything that is on their minds at the beginning of the meeting (i.e., their “to-do” list – stop by the drug store for Ryan’s prescription, finish Bible study, call Aunt Judy, talk to supervisor regarding project, take car in for repairs, help neighbor finish fence, get Sarah’s church camp application in by Sunday, etc.).
2. Give them sufficient time to create a list. Then pass out envelopes, and have group members seal their lists inside the envelopes and write their names on the outside.
3. Collect the envelopes and tell the group members you will redistribute them at the end of the meeting. Ask them in the meantime to forget about everything on the list and focus on what God would have them receive from the meeting.
4. As an option, you may want to pray over the envelopes before you hand them back, asking God to help the group members prioritize the things on their lists and do them “as to the Lord and not to men” (Col. 3:23b NKJV).

DISCUSSION

None, unless one or more of the group members need prayer about an urgent need on their lists.

MATERIALS

Papers, pens, and envelopes

TIME REQUIRED

5 to 10 minutes