

Developing A Healthy Women's Ministry

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Qualifications of a Women's Ministry Director/Leader:

1. Ability – She should be proven in other areas first (smaller & less important). Just because a person is willing to do something or even wants very much to do it, doesn't mean they are qualified or capable of the responsibility. Don't start her off at the top!
2. Calling – This is a ministry, so she should feel called to do it.
3. Character – She should be a person of integrity, faithful, involved, and most important teachable.
4. Leadership Skills – Some can be taught, but the best leaders are natural leaders. Choleric personality type with a Sanguine mix.

PASTORS' WIVES - Training the leader:

1. Training – Once you have your eyes on someone. Take her under your wing for a time. Ask her to lead in specific areas, and see how she does. Encourage, build, believe in, and provide opportunities for her to succeed, and then don't become competitive when she does. Be sure to give her the tools to become successful. There are conferences and books available now, but the best "teacher" is mentoring from your own heart.
2. Support - Encourage her, appreciate her, and stand behind her leadership. Let her know that you are a team and that you will handle anything that comes along . . . together. When things aren't going well, be there to uplift and bring ideas to the table. Do not throw her under the bus to save face. Step up and take responsibility like a team player.
3. Resources – Provider her with all the necessary materials and supplies that she will need. Don't tell me you don't have the money! Find the money.
4. Mentoring – Use "Mentoring Women," it is a very good resource and you will be investing in not only the future of the Women's Ministry but in the future of the entire church! The material is designed to build leaders from the inside out. She will learn to follow your lead and will serve you faithfully.
5. Vision – Lead with vision! Be the primary vision caster. Her roll will be to fulfill your vision, while using her own gifts and talents to get it done. Let her have vision too and fund it when you can. She is valuable.

6. Empowerment – Trust her. (If you don't then she is not the right woman for the job!) Don't undermine her leadership by "pulling rank" in front of people. Stand behind her decisions whenever possible, or talk to her about it later in private. If you don't, you are only hurting yourself, the women's ministry, and her future potential. No one wins.

Duties and Responsibilities of a Women's Ministry Leader:

1. Plan a calendar of events. (Don't over do it—people can only do so much.)
2. Recruit leadership under you to head up specific areas within the ministry. (see attachment)
3. Surround yourself with competent, positive, praying help!
4. Provide quarterly meetings.
 - a. To encourage, train and inspire the ministry team.
 - b. To plan for upcoming events and to accept assignments.
 - c. To brainstorm about possible events.
 - d. To gain feedback on past events and what can be done to continue to improve the ministry.
5. Discuss problems, challenges and concerns with the Pastor's Wife or ministry head.
6. Serve the PW loyally and faithfully with the ministry in mind. Seek to protect her from criticism, and support her ministry.
7. Put the needs of the women above your own, and seek to serve them.
8. Don't get discouraged if people fail to meet your expectations – we are all doing the best we can. Train them and love them.
9. You must have "stick-to-it-iveness" to maintain a healthy women's ministry. You cannot lose your cool with people, and you must keep the end in mind.
10. Work through differences. Learn to take the high road. If you can't, then do not start a women's ministry!