

MOMS—CIRCLE OF LOVE

Especially for mothers of preschoolers and young children.

Who mothers mothers? Their children can't and don't, though they occasionally soothe with a slobbery kiss. Children zero in on their own needs.

A husband may come home tired from a day of work unaware of the stress his wife accumulates staying alone all day with little ones. A young mother's own mother may live far away or may have forgotten the numbing demands of child-rearing days.

The church has extolled the role of wives and mothers. It encourages mothers of young children to stay home. Until a few years ago new mothers hardly considered any other option and society affirmed their role in the home. Stay-at-home mothers today often buck public opinion. They not only find little support but may also draw a lot of criticism. She may find she is the only adult in her neighborhood during the day.

What's a mother to do? To whom shall she turn? Can the church assist those who feel overwhelmed, isolated and stressed?

Young moms have so much to share with each other, a wealth of hands-on experience, broad shoulders for supporting each other and because our hands stroke and pat the little heartbeats of the future, our eyes focus with a rich maternal vision. Let's use that vision to uplift, encourage and promote the extraordinary challenge and art of mothering. Our mother hearts yield up a tender touch. There is a famine for this priceless treasure. Let's give it generously – to our children, to our families, to each other. Who mothers mothers? We do. In this program, Women's Ministries focuses primarily on the woman herself, supporting her, encouraging her in her chosen role.

INFORMATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Send out a questionnaire to the women in your church, informing them of your hope to form small Moms Circle of Love Groups (of not more than 8-10 mothers per group).

Ask them:

- a. if they would be interested in attending.
- b. how often would they attend?
- c. what is the best time, or day, in the week?
- d. would they like to lead a MOMS group?
- e. what role would they like a MOMS small group to fill for them as a woman?
- f. what areas in their lives are the most neglected?

POSSIBLE TOPICS TO EXPLORE

Discipline

Daycare
Infertility
Dysfunction
Burnout
Spiritual Gifts
PMS
Grandparents
Mom's Night Out
Crafts
Anger
Spiritual Growth
Single Parenting
Devotions
Time Management
Fitness
Postpartum
Stress Management
Do you know a good speaker who can speak knowingly on these subjects?

Goals

We intend that the small Moms Circle of Love groups will be a place where you can develop special friendships and find others who understand your ups and downs as a woman who is also a mother. Confidentiality is an important goal, and we also would hope that you may return to your roles refreshed and aware that you are not alone.

Sources

Spruill, Karen. Starting a Mothers Support Group, 1988.