

Focus on Young Women Devotion

(Prepare or purchase a small floral arrangement consisting of white flowers and greenery. Plan to display it as a focal point; but have five different colored and kinds of flowers to add as devotion progresses.)



We know that each of us is different. God has given each of us spiritual gifts.

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men. (1 Corinthians 12:4-6).

Recognizing these differences is easy. Look around the room and you can see that. It is the same in nature. God has created different kinds of animals, plants, flowers, and trees. Each of these creations is unique, just as He planned.

To illustrate this point, we have brought with us this beautiful floral arrangement. The greenery and white flowers make a stunning display, but you must admit, it lacks variety. Many LWML societies are just like this floral arrangement; beautiful and effective, but little variety. However, with a few small adjustments, this arrangement, like most societies, can have beauty, effectiveness and variety as well. The variety that we are referring to is young women.

How do you add them? We offer an acronym to help you; the word **SAINT**. With each letter, we will add another flower to change our arrangement.

The letter **S** (add flower) stands for short. Most young women lack time, so they want a meeting that is straight to the point. A meeting that begins on time and ends on time . . . A meeting that may include business, but is not ALL business.

The letter **A** (add flower) stands for accomplishment. Because young women lack time, when they do attend a meeting, they want to feel that their time was given for a purpose.

The letter **I** (add flower) stands for inspiration. No matter how busy a young woman gets, she needs to be spiritually recharged. If she walks away feeling spiritually filled from your meeting, she will most likely return and visit again.

The letter **N** (add flower) stands for no pressure. Allow young women to visit without joining and give them the freedom to return when they are available. Their schedule may only allow for a few meetings a year; accept whatever time they can give with encouragement to continue.

Finally, the letter **T** (add flower) stands for talk. Make them feel welcome and encourage them on their walk. If you are comfortable with mentoring, do so. Mentoring can allow you to pass on your love of service to someone else.

Since the inception of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, women of all ages have been united in spirit and purpose. As "Lutheran Women in Mission" each of us is different, yet in Christ we are linked with each other and compliment one another's gifts, talents and strengths.

Without God-given uniqueness everyone would look the same, act the same, think the same and feel the same. Think about it. As you look at this arrangement now, remind yourself of your society and ask yourself which flower arrangement are you? We hope that if you are the first, you will strive to become the second.

