

Welcome Ideas

There are several reasons to start a cell meeting with a 'Welcome'

- It helps get everyone involved from the beginning
- It gives everyone the opportunity to take part – even the quieter person
- It helps people set down their own agendas and focus being a group
- It can help energise people

But any welcome idea must be well chosen – right for your cell and the stage it is at – and variety is also a key.

Here are some Welcome Ideas that CFC cell leaders have used- feel free to add to the list by emailing heather.kennedy@cfcbelfast.com

Getting to know you

Name games

1. What is your name –and why are you called that- or any other interesting story about your name
2. If you could change your name what would you like to be called?
3. Going round in a circle first person says name and something they like beginning with same letter eg my name is Betty and I like baked beans. Next person has to add their name and then repeat previous ones – last person in circle repeats everyone's!
4. Have someone teach the group how to finger spell their name in sign language

Questions

5. Where did you live between the ages of 7 & 10 years old?
6. What was your favourite childhood toy and why?
7. If you were an electrical appliance ./ piece of furniture / fruit what would you be and why?
8. If you could have plastic surgery what would you have done?
9. What really winds you up?
10. What do you do to unwind?
11. What was your best/ worst Birthday / Christmas present?
12. If you could go back in time what year would you go back to and why?
13. How did you become a Christian?

Activities

14. Introduce a friend – in twos find out as much as possible about the other person. Then each person introduces the other to the group and tells them what they found out.
15. Tip out a box of chocolates (miniature Heros or Celebrations work well) each person chooses one that tells us something about them
16. Clean up a pile of 1p's (in Coke or brown sauce) give each person one. They have to tell something that happened to them on the year on the penny
17. Play a table game (like Taboo / Boggle / Jenga)
18. Tell the group 3 things about yourself that they may not know- 2 true and one a lie. The group guess which is false
19. Play people bingo – prepare sheets with 9 boxes – each containing a statement eg has blue eyes, has size 9 feet, lives in Belfast etc. people have to move around the room and find people who can sign each box – good for getting the group mixing or if 2 cells come together
20. Bring a pile of assorted hats – anything from a top hat, riding helmet, clown's hat, wedding hat, cloth cap etc. people choose a hat that says something about them and explain their choice
21. Each person receives an envelope with a congratulatory travel prize e.g. holiday of a lifetime / weekend city break in Europe / adventure holiday / activity holiday etc. where would they go?
22. as in 21 but with book tokens- fact / fiction / favourite author / cookery book / travel guide / how to book etc – what would you choose
23. As in 21 but with restaurant types – Indian / Chinese / Thai / Pizza- what would your menu choice be
24. As in 21 –but Music / DVD Token
25. if you could invite 3 people (living or dead) to a meal in your home who would you invite?
26. Give me 3 – each person asked to tell 3 things eg
 - 3 places you have lived
 - 3 places you have visited
 - 3 TV programmes you have watched recently or regularly
 - 3 people you email / phone often
 - 3 jobs you have had
27. what if any nicknames have you been called?
28. who is your favourite bible character and why?

Going Deeper

Questions

29. What is the best and worst thing that has happened to you this week?
30. How and when did you get baptised in the Holy Spirit?
31. What gifts do you feel you have from Romans 12?
32. What spiritual gifts do you exercise from I Cor 12?
33. What person has had the most influence on your spiritual life
34. Share a time that a verse of scripture impacted you
35. Share a song / hymn that has impacted you in the past (or recently)
36. When did you last do something for the first time & what was it?

Activities

37. draw a picture (stick figure are ok!) of something encouraging that happened since we last met.
38. Draw a picture of something you are thankful for
39. on a weather chart – what symbol would you choose to describe your relationship with God at the moment? (cloudy/ sunny/ stormy / dry etc) actually having the symbols cut out for people to choose from is even better
40. take turns to put one person on a chair with their back to everyone else. Talk about what you like about that person for 1 minute (only positives!! And time it so everyone gets equal turn
41. everyone puts name on bottom of a piece of paper. Then pass to the person next to you – they write what gifts they see in you at the top , fold top over , keep passing the papers round in a circle until everyone has written on everyone else's.