

## Tips on Getting Women to Serve with You

- Pray. Pray. Pray. Then you can approach a woman and let her know that God led you to speak to her about this particular position. Have her pray about it before she says yes or no.
- Be friendly. Smile a lot. Women don't want to serve with unhappy people. Smiles are easy and cheap!
- Show an interest in each person. Find out about her. People like to work with women who are interested in them. Let each one know she is unique and would add greatly to the ministry.
- Be enthusiastic. Even if you don't know what you're doing, you can be excited about what God is going to do!
- Let people know how important serving the Body of Christ is. No matter our strengths or weaknesses, God uses the available. A love for people is the most important ingredient.
- Always present leadership as a privilege, not a duty. Let them know we're serving God, not people; it's His ministry.
- Don't lower the expectations of the particular ministry by saying, "You don't have to do much." People are looking for meaningful and valuable ways to use their time, and challenging ministries will encourage them to serve.
- Realize that you can't please everybody all the time. Criticism will come. (The one who doesn't "step on toes" isn't moving!) But do what the Lord would have you do. If you sincerely and prayerfully do your job as unto the Lord, usually it will work out.
- Don't criticize others. Don't agree with others who are critical. You don't have to blow out the other person's candle to make your own burn brighter. A critical attitude is not attractive. It will keep people from serving because they will know you will criticize them if they don't please you.
- Don't rob the Holy Spirit of His ministry in other people's lives. Let them create, change, imagine. Be flexible and open minded with other people's ideas.
- Involve as many people as possible in a ministry. Give every woman or someone from every church something to do. It will give ownership of the ministry.
- Recognize we all work on different cylinders. Some are able to go a mile a minute – others at a slower pace. Don't have expectations that don't go along with each individual style of serving.
- Praise the good—pray the bad!

—Carol Arnold