



PART I

Try stepping *Out of the Box!* Do one of the following fun activities for your next group gathering.

Ask each person to write a prayer request on a piece of paper and place it into a balloon. Blow up the balloons and then have a balloon fight — bat them around the room! When the leader says, “Stop,” you pop the balloon by sitting on it! Pray aloud or silently for the prayer request on the remaining piece of paper.

Host a congregational birthday party. Have members of your group host one table that represents one month of the calendar year. Decorate the table to represent that month. Invite the congregation members to sit at the table of their birthday month. End with a birthday cake and celebration for everyone!

Have a Nostalgia Night. Each person wears or brings in a special keepsake article of clothing and tells why it is a treasure and how she obtained it. Possible items: old wedding dresses, bridesmaid dresses, scarves, or the aprons that Mom or Grandma wore.

Bake a batch of Scripture cookies and share them with your friends, pastors, church pre-college students, new moms, shut-ins, or nursing home residents.



Ask each person to bring in a favorite teapot — or a mug, postcard, book, knickknack, or a Christmas ornament if it's that time of year. Put all the items in the center of the group and try to guess the identity of the owner. (Hey, who's the funny person that brought in the “cracked pot”?)

Put out a selection of different candy bars. Each person chooses a candy bar and explains why that candy bar (or her personality or life experiences) describes her personality or life experiences.

Hold a “Gifts from the Bible” bridal shower. The bride-to-be receives gifts mentioned in the Bible: salt, spices, dates, linen cloths, candles, yeast, bowls, oils, perfume, baskets, olives, needlework, needles and pins, planting soil, seeds, towels, and wine. Include the Bible verse along with the gift and read it aloud as the gifts are opened.

Host a movie night or game night “for ladies only”! Pop popcorn and enjoy one another’s company. (Pajamas and slippers optional!)

Scripture Cookie Recipe (verses taken from King James Version)

3/4 cup The words of his mouth were smoother than _____ (Psalm 55:21).
 1/3 cup ...a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with _____ and honey (Exodus 3:8).

1 1/2 cupsand the sweet _____ from a far country (Jeremiah 6:20).
 2 ...and as one gathereth _____ that are left (Isaiah 10:14).
 2 cups And Solomon’s provision for one day was thirty measures of fine _____ (1 Kings 4:22).

1 tsp Take thou also unto thee principal spices...and of sweet _____ half so much (Exodus 30:23).
 1 tsp Ye are the _____ of the earth (Matthew 5:13).
 1/2 tsp The kingdom of heaven is like unto _____ (Matt. 13:33).
 3 cups ...but an handful of _____ in a barrel (1 Kings 17:12).
 1 cup ...the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her _____ are fully ripe (Revelation 14:18).

Beat first four ingredients together. Mix in remaining ingredients. Drop by rounded teaspoonfuls onto greased cookie sheet. Bake at 350° F (175° C) for 15 minutes. [Recipe origin unknown]

Scripture Cookie Answers: 3/4 cup butter, 1/3 cup milk, 1 1/2 cup sugar, 2 eggs, 2 cups flour, 1 tsp cinnamon, 1 tsp salt, 1/2 tsp baking soda, 3 cups oats, 1 cup raisins

Compiled by the *Quarterly* editors from district LWML newsletters across the country. Look for more Idea Bank ideas in future issues. **Send your suggestions to us!**