

Devotional & Article Writing Starters

Topic: "Kitchen"

Julia Bettencourt

Baking up Casseroles

Good casseroles have lots of layers or things in them are distributed pretty evenly. Doesn't that sound like the women in the women's ministry program?

[This would also work for joining a new family or marriage (for bridal shower) or people in unity in the body of Christ.]

- We all are thrown together.
- We all are different ingredients and we must bring out the flavors in each other.
- We are all together in a communal pot/dish so we better get along.

Casseroles can be simple up to complex. Just like our churches are totally different because we have different ingredients (women or people) and we bring out the flavors of each other in different ways. Therefore, our dish (women's ministry, new family, marriage, or church) will be unique and have a distinct flavor.

- Don't try to be like the other "casseroles" out there.
- Be yourself!
- God made us each unique so we can fill the dish like He planned.
- God is the Master Chef

This next one is more like a prompt for an object lesson. Ive added 4 things from the kitchen we can learn some wisdom from but put your thinking cap on and see if you can come up with more.

Learning in the Kitchen

- Measuring Spoons/Cups
 - o Fill your life to the brim with God's Word.
 - Fill your life to the brim with prayer.
- Mixing Bowl
 - You will be relied on. Hold it together.
 - You need to handle all the ingredients of every day and all the beating the world sends your way. Rely on God.
- Strainer
 - Allow the things of the world and the day to run off of you. Get your strength from Jesus.
 - Allow God to work so that the things left in your life honors Him.
- Rolling Pin
 - o Keep pressing out the air bubbles of life.
 - Keep rolling along and serving God.

The Kitchen Table

- Gathering Spot
- Gets worn over time
- Is a comforting place

- Is an enjoyable space
- Can get messy
- Is where we are nourished

Isn't that so like our Prayer & Bible Reading Time? It' our Gathering Spot with the Lord. It gets worn like an old friend. We find comfort there. We can find enjoyment there. And that prayer can get messy with our longings, heartache, and crying. Sometimes we will leave tears and slobber on the tablecloth. But wow! What a place of nourishment when we dig into God's Word!

Permission Details for "Starters" & Writing Prompts:

You may not reproduce the "starters" or writing prompts as is. You must add and contribute to the content and make your own devotional/article with them before sharing. The end result should be your own thoughts done with your own words. The "starters" and writing prompts are offered as an outline/skeleton base to build upon with your own writing on top of the "starter". Think of them as a "starter" for bread. Your loaf will always turn out a little differently even if others use the same starter as you. Be creative and bake your own loaf!