Love Letters

Julia Bettencourt



Love letters are those things we hold dear, so I think this makes a nice theme for a Valentine's Day party, whether it is just with the gals or with couples. And what a cute theme for kids using mailboxes and letters as décor. I can see those little mailboxes like you get in the Target Dollar Spot, envelope sugar cookies, and an exchange of Valentine's cards.

Love letters are how we express our thoughts and concern to those we love and care about, so I think that is a great thing to concentrate on whether it is a friendship

love or a romantic love.

Love Letters Theme Concept

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The event themes on the website can be used for showers, parties, women's ministry retreats and activities, or church functions. Each theme will have one or several possible spiritual applications. *I* give you *lots* of info and ideas—*You* pick just a *few* to enhance your event. More ideas can be used for showers and parties, but *less* is always more for ministry events.

Theme Title Ideas

- Between the Lines
- Dear Love
- Dearly Beloved
- Drop Me a Line
- God's Love Letter
- Greetings of Love
- Letter for Letter
- Letter Perfect
- Letters from Home
- Letters of Friendship
- Letters of Love
- Line by Line
- Love Letter from God
- Love Letters
- Love, She Wrote
- Message in a Bottle
- Mr. Postman!

- Open Mailboxes
- Sealed with a Kiss
- Signed, Sealed,
 and Delivered
- Sincerely, Yours
- Snail Mail (kid's party)
- Something to Write
 Home About
- The Envelope,
 Please
- The Joy of Communication
- The Joy of Letters
- The Mail's Here!
- To My True Love
- To the Letter
- Valentine Couple's Banquet

- Valentine's Card Exchange Party
- Valentine's Day
 Candy Bar Party
- Valentine's Day
 Cookie Decorating
 Party
- Valentine's Day
 Cookie Exchange
- Valentine's Day Party
- Well Worn & Well
 Read
- With Love,
- Written on My Heart
- Written with Love

Spiritual & General Applications

- Focus on the Bible, our Love Letter from God.
- Focus on being a *Love Letter* by our witness for the Lord.
- Focus on the message we are to share (God's love).
- Focus on communication between loved ones.
- Focus on friendship through a Valentine's Celebration.

Theme Verse Suggestions

This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them. Hebrews 10:16 Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts. Jeremiah 15:16

Devotional Starter & Workshop Ideas

 My "Please, Mr. Postman" and "The Envelope, Please" devotions are in the <u>More Love Please</u> Devotional Collection, which can be purchased on Amazon here.

https://www.amazon.com/More-Love-Please-Collection-Devotions/dp/B09PP56YY3/



- Download the "Letters" Devotional/Article Writing Helps
 https://www.juliabettencourt.com/womens-ministry/devotional-helps/letters-devotional-writing-ideas.pdf
- Download the "Kisses" Devotional Writing Prompts/Starters
 https://www.juliabettencourt.com/womens-ministry/devotional-helps/kisses-devotional-writing-starters.pdf

- Download the "Cupcake" Devotional Writing Prompts/Starters
 https://www.juliabettencourt.com/womens-ministry/devotional-helps/starters-cupcake-theme.pdf
- Paper Chains Talk about how our love binds us together.
- Find all of my devotional collections on Amazon.
 http://www.amazon.com/author/juliabettencourt

Simple Decorating

- General Valentine's Day Décor
- Pink and red cut-out hearts
- Pretty envelope garland (make with string/ribbon & envelopes)
- Stacks of letters tied up with string/ribbon
- Mailboxes (Check dollar stores or Target dollar bins)
- Attach mini envelopes to dowels in floral arrangements
- Valentine Card envelopes (like kid ones) for place cards (if you know ahead who is attending)
- Pink/red paper chains made out of construction paper strips.
- Simple Décor: Tray of Valentine's Day items such as stack of tied letters, candle, rose, quill pen, and wrapped candies.

Icebreakers

Discussion Starters

- When is the last time that you received or wrote a personal letter?
- How many of you have kept letters that you have received?
- Why did you keep them?
- What makes them so special?
- What is your favorite line in God's Love Letter (the Bible)?
- How often do you read God's Love Letter (the Bible)?

Activity Sheets

- How Do I Love Thee (Choose someone you love to concentrate on why you love them.)
 - https://www.juliabettencourt.com/womens-ministry/themehelps/valentines/how-do-i-love-thee-list.pdf
- How Do I Love Thee? Jesus <u>https://www.juliabettencourt.com/book-launch/More-Love-Please/how-do-I-love-thee-sheet.pdf</u>

Music

- Yes, Jesus Loves Me
- The Love of God (Frederick Martin Lehman)

Favor Ideas

- Box of greeting cards
- Greeting card (sealed in plastic)
- Letter opener
- Letter seals/stickers (Check Hobby Lobby)
- Mini address books

- Pen holder/container
- Pen/Pencil case
- Postage stamp dispenser/holder
- Stationary
- Writing pen (find fun ones)

Door Prize Ideas

- Book/Roll of stamps
- Devotional book
- Handwriting/Calligraphy how to book
- Ink pen(s)
- Lap desk
- Letter opener
- Mug
- Pencil case

- Pretty shipping labels (Avery)
- Portfolio
- Return address label sheets (Avery)
- Set of postcards
- Stamp dispenser
- Stationary set
- Stickers (flat)
- Thesaurus
- Wax seal kit (Check Hobby Lobby)
- Letter Writing Basket: Stationary, Book/roll of stamps, ink pens, stickers (flat), wax seal kit, etc.

Just for Fun

Group Craft Projects

- Make a Valentine's Day heart project together, such as heart wreaths, etc.
- Decorate craft mailboxes. Either the metal ones or paper Mache.

Letter Writing Activities

Bring post cards or stationery and envelopes for group letter writing. Pick a special group of people to write letters to for your event. Make sure you have airmail postage for any overseas missionaries.

- Write letters to missionaries.
- Write letters to service men and women.
- Write letters and make care packages for college students.
- Write letters to shut ins (they love receiving mail!)
- Have everyone write a letter to their spouse or a friend.

Share letter writing prompts to help your guests get started writing to friends/loved ones.

- A memory the two of you have shared.
- A time you and your friend/loved one first met.
- The qualities you like about them the most.
- What blessings the Lord has given your recently.
- Your experience of Salvation.
- What you are looking forward to the next time you see them in person.

Share some Christian letter closing to put with signatures.

https://www.juliabettencourt.com/womens-ministry/writing-helps/letter-closing-ideas.pdf

Share inspiring verses for letter writing.

https://www.juliabettencourt.com/blog/encouraging-bible-verses-for-letter-writing/

Letter Sharing Activity

- Share a love letter. Could be from a spouse or a historical figure.
- Ask ahead and have your group members bring in any old letters from loved ones that they want to share a paragraph or two from that means something to them.

Food & Serving

- Pink foods/snacks such as cupcakes/cakes/cookies with pink icing, Hostess snowballs, strawberry ice-cream, etc.
- Red foods/snacks such as licorice, Hot Tamales candy, cinnamon red hots, strawberries, etc.
- Little Debbie Strawberry Shortcake rolls. Slice into four pieces and push a toothpick through.

- Little Debbie makes a few different heart shaped snacks for Valentine's Day.
- Heart shape sugar cookies
- Chocolate snacks
- Fruit and strawberry cream cheese fruit dip (Check your favorite search engine for recipes.)
- Fruit salad using strawberry Jello, tub of thawed whipped topping, and canned fruit. (Check your favorite search engine for recipes.)

Photo Source

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