

# Women's Ministry Vision 2019 - 2020

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Over the years, the purpose of women's ministry has remained constant. It is a place where women of all walks of life in CCF can gather together and form a community where we can be vulnerable, open, and journey together in our walks in Christ. Our vision for this year's women's ministry builds upon this goal, but we also hope to grow into a group where we can learn to be challenged and grow as people, Christians, and women of God.

For us to strive towards becoming an open community, we first need to be open and vulnerable with ourselves. Vulnerability is often viewed as the end goal for a community, but we believe that there is much more to a community than that. It is a means to an end, a step in the process of breaking ourselves down in order to rebuild our foundations in Christ with transparency. Often times, we feel the need to put up a front, and portray only the best parts of ourselves. While this is not inherently a bad thing, if we have expectations of a vulnerable community, it can only happen if we are first vulnerable with ourselves. If we are not completely honest with ourselves and others about our struggles, insecurities, flaws, and most importantly with our faith, can we truly call this a Christian community? We hope to be a group that is transparent and supportive, where women can come together and learn to be open and with ourselves and each other; to be able to share honestly and rebuke lovingly, to help each other break down their own walls and rebuild on the foundations of Christ together. The comfort that comes with an open community should not be the final stage, but the beginning of the rebuilding of our relationships founded on Christ.

God has given us the vision of the women of CCF as confident women in a bold pursuit of God. Our hope is that through creating this culture of vulnerability with each other, this year's women's ministry would inspire and equip each woman to be curious to know God more and confident of who we are in Christ. Through this, we hope that we can empower women's ministry to take ownership of our own faiths and be courageous in living it out.

Our relationship with God is a personal one, and that means taking personal ownership of what we believe in. Truly pursuing God means actively engaging in the process of knowing His character, learning how to worship Him, learning how to love Him more. But how do we do this? One thing we can do is to be curious - to ask questions, want to find out more, to look at things critically and challenge what we know and believe. We want to ask ourselves: what is it that we really, truly believe? Why do we worship the God we worship? What does it even mean to follow God? Are we doing that? Sometimes this process takes a lot of courage, honesty, and letting down our pride. It's hard to ask questions when we're afraid of looking uninformed, unintelligent, or like a bad Christian for asking. Sometimes it's hard to ask questions because we're afraid we won't like the answers.

Therefore, we desire for women's ministry to be a space where we are allowed to ask these "dumb" questions, look critically at what we know, and go back to the basics of what we believe. We hope it will be a place for this curiosity to spur us towards knowing and loving God more intimately, where

we are so, so genuinely excited to seek God. We will facilitate a space of openness and discovery, where we can freely be flawed and broken as we are. Our desire is that the ministry will be a place and community where we are allowed to be unsure, where are okay with leaving with more questions than we started with - because our God is greater and more unfathomable than we can ever even try to comprehend.

This year, our goal is for women's ministry to be a space where we feel comfortable coming together to be open and vulnerable. We hope that it will be a community of women that will walk alongside each other in truth and support one another as we journey in our own spiritual lives, discovering what taking ownership of our faith means to us. A place where, no matter where you are in life and what stage you're at in your faith, you can come and feel at home :)