



Leaders Developing Leaders

by Sue Sawyer, Women's Ministry Strategist and Associate Church Mobilization Strategist for Projects, and Cindy Hall, Women's Ministry Director, Centreville Baptist Church, Centreville

In the fall of 2008, Cindy Hall, Women's Ministry director at Centreville Baptist Church, began the search for a mission trip destination for the ladies in her church. She was soon drawn to East Stone Gap Baptist, a small church with a big heart in a struggling southwest Virginia mining community. The original plan was to serve alongside church members at their HELP center, which ministers to the needy twice a week with food and clothing. Cindy shares, "As I began conversing with Pastor Lonnie Brooks about the plans, something very exciting started to surface. He told me of a group of women in the church who were trying to start ministering to women through Bible studies with the hope of expanding to other ministries and events." Cindy already had a passion for assisting ladies serving in Women's Ministry, and the Lord seemed to be opening a door of opportunity to do just that. "Soon," shares Cindy, "I was chatting with the sweetest southern voice, as Connie [from East Stone Gap] shared her heart's desire to minister to the women in her church and community. We began to talk, dream, and plan together."

Encourage Others

The following spring, a team from Centreville arrived in East Stone Gap to present the *Both Feet In Women's Conference* free of charge to a precious group of women. Centreville brought the speaker, a worship team, and members of its events team. They hoped to encourage the women at East Stone Gap in their faith and offer them a special morning. "We all left feeling like we were the ones who were blessed," says Cindy. "Those women now hold a sweet spot in our hearts." According to Cindy, the highlight of the event was "seeing Connie, who did not consider herself a leader, take the microphone and share from her heart." Connie previously thought she could never do something like that!

Cindy and Connie now share a special relationship, and the ladies from Centreville continue to encourage their friends at East Stone Gap, even giving resources to support the growth of their Women's Ministry.

Honor the Gift Giver

Leadership is a gift from God and should be used for His glory. If we are given such a gift and are also blessed with abundant resources, what better way to honor the Gift Giver than to share what we have?



Cindy, Connie,
and Elaine

RESOURCE

Website:

www.sbcv.org/mens_and_womens_ministries

SBCV Contact:

Call 888-234-7716 for details from your region's missionary.

Consider:

Are you using God's gifts for His glory?

