

Leadership Tips 101

October 2017

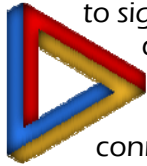
Connect, Make Friends and Pray!

Relationships matter!

The women of one church recently cultivated relationships when they started something they call

"3-4-1": three women, four months, one purpose. It's simple. **Three women** connect regularly for **four months** with the **singular purpose** of supporting each other, growing in faith and praying for one another.

Women in the congregation were invited to sign up for **3-4-1**, providing their contact information. They were then matched up into triads, and effort was made to connect people who didn't know one another (unless they had



specifically asked to be paired with friends whose names they provided). Preference was given to cross-generational pairings. Women in the triads were notified by email, so they instantly had one another's contact information. **Each triad met face to face within the first month to get acquainted and share prayer concerns.** They then agreed to check in with one another via **email** by a prearranged weekly deadline. They also meet face-to-face once a month, for four months.

A few simple ground rules were offered: **confidentiality, resisting advice-giving and balancing out the sharing so no one person dominated the conversation.** With that, the groups were off and running.

If you are looking for something simple and easy to connect women, try **3-4-1**. Call it whatever you want, but just make it possible for women to **connect, make friends and pray!**

American Baptist
Women's
MINISTRIES

As leaders, one of the "unwritten" rules is to be on the lookout for new ideas. The September 2017 issue of *Leader's Reader*, published by the national board of **American Baptist Women's Ministries**, shared the **3-4-1** idea that is worthy of your consideration.

This short-term prayer focus will allow women from your church to **know each other better, lean on each other and build strong relationships.** When creating small prayer groups, mix circle women with women not in American Baptist Women's Ministries. Building relationships in these small groups may bring new members into your women's group.

