

RESPONDING TO NEEDS

As a Bible study leader, you will learn about needs in the lives of the people in your group. Knowing about a need is one thing. Responding to that need is another. Responding to a need calls for action! But, what action? When? How? Listed below are a few of the needs that regularly arise and some suggestions for leading your group to respond to those needs.

Birth of a Child

- Miscellaneous shower given by class (perhaps open to the church).
- Class provide meals for _____ nights.
- Additional diaper and casserole shower given by class.

Death

Suggestions if local:

- Send card (perhaps plant/flowers) and provide meals for _____ nights.
- Assist at home during funeral (if necessary).

Suggestions if not local:

- Send card (perhaps plant/flowers)
- Provide meals for _____ nights upon return to town.

Remember:

- Keep in touch with the person(s) who experienced the loss, especially during the weeks after the flowers have faded.

Hospitalization or Homebound

Suggestions if short hospital stay:

- Card and meal for _____ nights

Suggestions if extended hospital stay:

- Card and meal for _____ nights.
- Basket of food/fruit at hospital.
- Assist with child care, laundry, or errands (if necessary).
- Sit with patient during day.

Remember:

- Be proactive. Offer specific help: "I would like to help do your laundry while you stay with your loved one in the hospital."

Loss of Job

- Each family in class provide a bag of groceries or contribute toward purchase of a grocery voucher. Notify church staff if you learn of serious needs beyond the ability of your group to meet.