



12 Days of Christmas Games



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About the Author



About the Author

A self-professed icebreaker-junkie, Cyndee Ownbey has been creating icebreaker games for years! She serves as a mentor to thousands of women's ministry leaders through her website [Women's Ministry Toolbox](http://WomensMinistryToolbox.com). Having served on three different women's ministry teams in three different churches in three different cities, she has a wide variety of experiences from which to share. For the last five years, she's called Charlotte, North Carolina home, where she lives with her husband of 22 years and the younger of their two teen boys. An elementary teacher by trade, she enjoys teaching from God's Word and has a passion for helping women's ministry leaders create relevant events and activities that meet the changing needs of the women in their church and community.

How to Use

These Christmas Icebreaker Games will help to further build relationships and connections within your group(s) as they share stories and reminisce about favorite Christmas activities.

Each icebreaker game includes detailed instructions including:

- Description
- Recommended Group Size
- Length of the Game
- Supplies Needed
- Suggestions (when appropriate)
- Printables (as needed)

Please read through the instructions BEFORE your event.

Keep in Mind the Purpose

If your group is less than enthusiastic about icebreaker games, it can be helpful to gently remind that these games serve a purpose. I don't suggest you read the list below, but rather weave one of the purposes into your introduction. For example, "Tonight we're going to make some new connections and get to know each other better as we answer some Christmas icebreaker questions."

- 1. Women need a reason to mix and mingle with others outside of their social circles.**
Let's face it – it's so much easier for women to visit with old friends. Great good can come from forcing them outside of their group for a few minutes. Break up those cliques!
- 2. God can use icebreakers to make connections and build community among the women at your event.** Details are shared that might never be otherwise. Whether it's the love of the same Christmas song, a shared favorite Christmas treat, or the details of a unique family Christmas tradition, creating means for such details to be shared reveals similar hearts and journeys. God may even plant the seeds for future friendships or discipling relationships.
- 3. You are creating a memorable experience for that group of women to share.** They'll never forget wrapping up one another when you play the "Wrap it up!" game.
- 4. It will fill their mouths with laughter (Psalm 126:2). Give your women a reason to smile and laugh.**
- 5. Mental breaks are needed during retreats, conferences, and other longer events.** Your women will absorb more of God's message for them after having an opportunity to move and laugh.

Christmas Connection

Description: Armed with the Christmas Connection worksheet, participants will move around the room collecting signatures from those who match the description.

Group size: 8 or more

Time needed: Approximately 15 minutes (larger groups may need more time)

Supplies:

- One copy of Christmas Connection per person
- 1 pen/pencil per person
- Clock/timer

Before giving the instructions:

Decide how many duplicate signatures will be allowed. Here are the recommended signatures based on group size:

- For groups of 8-15 allow for no more than 3 signatures from the same person on each sheet.
- For groups of 15-40 allow for no more than 2 signatures from the same person on each sheet.
- For groups of 40+ only allow no more than 1 signature from the same person on each sheet.

Decide if the game will:

1. End at a designated time (for example, 10 minutes)
2. End when the first person has completely (and correctly) filled their paper

Instructions:

2. Distribute one handout (face down if possible) to each person in the room.

3. Tell the group: *“Your task is to make connections with people in the room while uncovering interesting Christmas-related information. You’ll discover “who plans to attend a Christmas Eve Candlelight service, who has a live Christmas tree, who has re-gifted a Christmas present, and more! BUT you may only collect ___ signature per person. We want you to make lots of Christmas connections! The first person to correctly collect all needed signatures (or the person with the most signatures when ___ minutes is up) is the winner. When I say “go” get up, move around the room, and make some Christmas connections! Go!”*

Winner: The first person to correctly collect all needed signatures OR the person with the most signatures when time is called.



CHRISTMAS CONNECTION

Directions: Connect and collect one signature per line from those in the room who can say they:

Have celebrated Christmas in another country

Have already sent Christmas cards this year

Favorite Christmas movie is "Elf"

Put up Christmas lights outside

Know what they are getting for Christmas this year

Have a live Christmas tree

Watch the Charlie Brown Christmas every year

Have been to Bethlehem

Still get their own stocking filled each year

Love hot chocolate with marshmallows

Returned a gift they received last Christmas

Have all of their Christmas shopping finished

Started their Christmas shopping already this year

Don't like Christmas

Haven't done any Christmas shopping yet this year

Plans to attend a Christmas Eve candlelight service

Will be traveling out of state for Christmas this year

Favorite Christmas carol is "O Holy Night"

Are reading a Christmas/Advent devotional

Have re-gifted a Christmas present

SAMPLE



What is your favorite Christmas song or carol?



When or how do you exchange or open presents?

Share a favorite Christmas memory.



What is one gift you'll never forget?



It was a Christmas with...



Where and with whom will you be spending Christmas?

What is your favorite kind of Christmas cookie?



Share a family Christmas tradition.



What Christmas movie or TV special do you watch every year?



What is one thing you REALLY want for Christmas?