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# Evaluation Report

*Virtue in an Age of Promiscuity*



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## Executive Summary

The first ever *Virtue in an Age of Promiscuity* one-day retreat was held on March 17, 2012 and attended by over 350 women and girls. The retreat was designed for ladies to discuss, appreciate, and internalize the character of *virtue* in their relationships and in their daily lives. To follow are the results of an evaluation implemented with all participants at the close of the retreat.

This report details the methodology used for the evaluation and the results of the evaluation. Adult, teen, and elementary evaluation results are detailed along with summary comments from the forms regarding the overall impressions of the retreat and whether or not participants would attend again.

Finally, a recommendation for the format and timing of a ladies day retreat in 2013 is included.

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## Background

The *Virtue in an Age of Promiscuity* ladies day retreat is designed to meet the needs of introducing, encouraging, validating, and strengthening the necessity of virtue in our everyday lives as a means to combat the images and propaganda we are subjected to daily. The primary topics, couched within a framework that promoted submission, obedience, and faith, addressed during the *Virtue in an Age of Promiscuity* ladies day retreat were:

- Attitude
- Respect
- Courage
- Wisdom

The opening session (devotional plenary) featured Margaret Roberston of the Overbrook Park Church of Christ in Philadelphia PA, and the closing devotional featured Jacqueline D. Maxwell of the Suitland Road Church of Christ in Suitland MD. Each workshop was conducted in tracks by age group – 5-12 years, 13-17 years, and 18 years and older. There were four classrooms for adult classes and one each for teens and elementary age children. Four facilitators (one for each topic) were assigned to each classroom.

Speakers and facilitators for the *Virtue in an Age of Promiscuity* ladies day retreat included knowledgeable, studied ladies who provided insight to the issues faced by ladies of various ages in this society. The speakers have experience that they shared as lessons learned for the ladies day participants. They also provided guidance for Bible-based best practices for ladies day participants to take and implement in their own lives. Speakers came from the following congregations:

- Aberdeen
- Capitol (Annapolis MD)
- Central (Baltimore)
- District Heights
- East Baltimore
- Silver Spring
- Suitland
- University Park

Participants in the ladies day retreat came from over 25 Churches of Christ and 4 denominational churches in Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Washington DC.

### Methodology

A survey using a Likert scale was utilized with each of the three age groups – adults (18 years and older), teenagers (13-17 years), and elementary age (5-12 years). The adult survey asks each adult and teenaged respondent to rate (poor, average, good, and excellent) each workshop (attitude, respect, courage, and wisdom), rate the retreat overall, indicate whether or not they would attend again or recommend attendance to a friend, and suggest topics for future retreats. The elementary age survey only asks for a rating (not good, good, and great) of each workshop.

Of the 239 registered adults, 128 (53.5%) responded to the survey. Of the 43 registered teens, 16 (37.2%) responded to the survey. Thirty-seven (92.5%) of the forty elementary age participants responded to the survey.

Both surveys are in the appendix.

### Adult Composite Results

Adults were divided into 4 different classrooms for each workshop topic. Figures 1 to 4 represent the cumulative responses for all 4 adult classes. The actual response numbers for each adult workshop follow. All 128 adult respondents rated all 5 categories for the attitude workshop. The respect workshop had 118 respondents, there were 125 respondents to the courage workshop, and only 97 respondents rated the wisdom workshop.

*Figure 1: Attitude*

	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
<b>Categories</b>				
I gained knowledge about Christian attitude	1	4	41	80
Content was easy to understand		3	44	81
Content matched workshop subject	2	4	35	87
Topics covered in sufficient detail	1	4	36	87
Overall rating of the workshop		4	36	88

**Summary Comments:**

- △ Good job
- △ Great job
- △ Needed more interaction
- △ Excellent and sincere teacher with love for the Lord
- △ Excellent
- △ Spoke mostly of her husband's good qualities, but she has a kind heart
- △ Entertaining message to remember to use all resources and never give up; keep pressing on for Christ
- △ Excellent discussion
- △ Dignified and loving
- △ Covered appropriate lesson on appearance and marriage
- △ Very engaging
- △ Very well organized

*Figure 2: Respect Workshop*

	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
<b>Categories</b>				
I learned what it means to respect myself		12	49	57
Content was easy to understand		12	49	57
Content matched workshop subject		12	42	64
Topics covered in sufficient detail	1	18	36	63
Overall rating of the workshop		13	41	64

**Summary Comments:**

- Δ Very good job
- Δ Told it like it was
- Δ Needed more interaction
- Δ I really loved her testimony at the end
- Δ Excellent
- Δ Wonderful, wonderful, wonderful!
- Δ Class participation helpful; reminders are always encouraging
- Δ Very well organized and caring
- Δ Very informative



*Figure 3: Courage Workshop*

	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
<b>Categories</b>				
I learned how to be courageous in Christ		17	47	62
Content was easy to understand		15	37	73
Content matched workshop subject		17	38	70
Topics covered in sufficient detail	1	19	38	67
Overall rating of the workshop		16	39	70

**Summary Comments:**

- △ Inspirational
- △ Very informative
- △ Interaction was good
- △ I love the courage story she gave us
- △ An upbeat and accurate approach to the truth
- △ Excellent
- △ Good lesson
- △ Difference of opinion helped to clarify some issues
- △ Interaction good
- △ Dedication in presenting the topic with understanding
- △ Portray interesting scripture on courage/strengths in our daily life
- △ Very informative
- △ Uninspiring/boring after lunch; needed excited speaker

*Figure 4: Wisdom Workshop*

	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
<b>Categories</b>				
I learned what it means to be wise in the Lord	3	7	27	60
Content was easy to understand	1	5	36	55
Content matched workshop subject	2	8	30	57
Topics covered in sufficient detail	3	6	29	59
Overall rating of the workshop	1	8	27	61

**Summary Comments:**

- △ Brought it home
- △ Needed to stay on point more
- △ It was very heartfelt and encouraging
- △ Delight(ful), dedicated to the truth of Christ
- △ I need to hear details, not all life experiences; also, (teacher) kept saying, "Oh my God!" IN VAIN!
- △ Related stories help others to relate
- △ Enjoyed the group activity
- △ Presented with understanding and knowledge
- △ Informative on being wise in the Lord
- △ Good energy
- △ Needed more excitement

**Teen Composite Results**

All 13 to 17 year old participants were in 1 classroom for each workshop topic. Figures 5 to 8 represent the actual response numbers for each teen workshop. All 16 teen respondents rated all 5 categories for the attitude, respect, and courage workshops. The wisdom workshop had only 15 respondents.

*Figure 5: Attitude Workshop – Teen*

	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
<b>Categories</b>				
I gained knowledge about Christian attitude		2	5	9
Content was easy to understand		1	8	7
Content matched workshop subject			8	8
Topics covered in sufficient detail		1	8	7
Overall rating of the workshop		1	4	11

*Figure 6: Respect Workshop – Teen*

	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
<b>Categories</b>				
I learned what it means to respect myself		3	4	9
Content was easy to understand		3	6	7
Content matched workshop subject		1	6	9
Topics covered in sufficient detail		3	5	8
Overall rating of the workshop		2	3	11

*Figure 7: Courage Workshop – Teen*

	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
<b>Categories</b>				
I learned how to be courageous in Christ		1	5	10
Content was easy to understand		2	5	9
Content matched workshop subject			6	10
Topics covered in sufficient detail			5	11
Overall rating of the workshop			3	13

*Figure 8: Wisdom Workshop – Teen*

	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
<b>Categories</b>				
I learned what it means to be wise in the Lord		1	6	8
Content was easy to understand			8	7
Content matched workshop subject		1	6	8
Topics covered in sufficient detail		1	6	8
Overall rating of the workshop		1	4	10

### Elementary Composite Results

All 5 to 12 year old participants were in 1 classroom for each workshop topic. Figures 9 to 12 represent the actual response numbers for each elementary workshop. All 37 elementary age respondents rated the wisdom workshop. The attitude workshop had 35 responses, respect had 36 responses, and courage had 32 responses.

*Figure 9: Attitude Workshop – Elementary<sup>1</sup>*

<b>Attitude Workshop</b>	<i>Not Good</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Great</i>
I liked the lesson.	1	9	11
My teacher explained things.		5	20
I learned how to have a Christian attitude.		6	19

<sup>1</sup> Approximately 10 responses were disqualified on the attitude rating because of unclear markings.

*Figure 10: Respect Workshop – Elementary<sup>2</sup>*

<b>Respect Workshop</b>	<b>Not Good</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Great</b>
I liked the lesson.	1	5	22
My teacher explained things.		5	24
I learned how to show respect.		3	24

*Figure 11: Courage Workshop – Elementary<sup>3</sup>*

<b>Courage Workshop</b>	<b>Not Good</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Great</b>
I liked the lesson.	1	3	25
My teacher explained things.	1	3	25
I learned how to be courageous.	1	4	24

*Figure 12: Wisdom Workshop – Elementary*

<b>Wisdom Workshop</b>	<b>Not Good</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Great</b>
I liked the lesson.	1	4	24
My teacher explained things.	1	6	22
I learned what it means to show Christian wisdom.	1	4	24

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<sup>2</sup> Approximately 8 responses were disqualified on the respect rating because of unclear markings.

<sup>3</sup> Approximately 3 responses were disqualified on the courage rating because of unclear markings.

## Verbatim Summary Comments

The following represents the actual comments of participants with regard to overall experience.

- △ Wonderful retreat!
- △ Would like everyone to hear the same speakers. Rotate the speakers or groups so they hear the same message and get to move around. One (full) day is too long. Consider 1 ½ days.
- △ More interaction, or call it a lectureship.
- △ Shorten time to end at 2 pm with keynote speaker right after lunch
- △ Classes should be separated for married, single, young adult women
- △ Nice to have it at a location where cost would not be a concern
- △ Give me more time!
- △ The food was not up to par. Continental breakfast should include muffins. A snack was not provided at the 3:00 break as expected. There was no dessert. The food service was very unorganized. There should have been two soup lines. The plates were removed from the buffet before lunch was over. The clean up began prematurely.
- △ Unorganized lunch time, felt rushed; should have had two soup stations to assist with faster service. No dessert available. Room temperature was uncomfortable/cold.
- △ The sessions were great... but long! It was a very long day. I think 30-45 minute sessions with shorter breakers. Hard to sit in listen for 5 hours.
- △ Next time I would like to see the day shorter. Maybe til 3 instead of til 5. I would also like to have had a hot lunch – not sandwiches.
- △ Excellent job on all the committee member. ABSOLUTELY wonderful. Thank you all.

## Summary Ratings

The overwhelming response to all workshops was highly favorable. Of all adult respondents, 106 out of 128 (83%) participants rated the workshops good or excellent. Figures 13 to 15 outline the breakdown of all workshop ratings for each age group.

*Figure 13: Adult Ratings*

	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
<b>Adult Workshops</b>				
Attitude	>1%	>1%	30%	69%
Respect	>1%	9%	36%	55%
Courage	>1%	10%	26%	63%
Wisdom	2%	7%	31%	60%

*Figure 14: Teen Ratings*

	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
<b>Teen Workshops</b>				
Attitude	0	6%	41%	53%
Respect	0	15%	30%	55%
Courage	0	3%	30%	67%
Wisdom	0	1%	40%	59%

*Figure 15: Elementary Ratings*

<b>Elementary Workshops</b>	<b>Not Good</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Great</b>
Attitude	>1%	18%	81%
Respect	>1%	11%	88%
Courage	3%	10%	87%
Wisdom	2%	12%	86%

## Analysis

The overwhelming response to the overall event was highly favorable. Over 99% of respondents strongly agreed that the *Virtue in an Age of Promiscuity* retreat was organized, informative, inspirational, and spiritually uplifting. Of the 78 who responded to the statement, “I would attend the *Virtue in an Age of Promiscuity* ladies retreat if it was offered again,” 96.2% responded in the affirmative. Of the 73 who responded to the statement, “I would recommend the *Virtue in an Age of Promiscuity* ladies retreat to a friend if it was offered again,” 95.9% responded in the affirmative.

Overall, at least 92% of all respondents agreed that the workshops were at least good, with the majority of respondents giving them a rating of excellent or great.

The summary comments for each workshop indicate some areas of weakness in presentation style, but offer insight into the favorable response to workshop content. The summary comments of the overall event offer insight into logistical concerns and the length of the retreat.

## Recommendations

The ladies day committee has reviewed the feedback of participants, considered the logistics of the 2012 retreat, and examined the content challenges and requirements. In light of these considerations, the committee finds the following:

- It is important to deliver the same message to all participants.
- More interaction is needed to participants to be fully engaged.
- A format that will allow for the evaluation of self-efficacy is necessary.

The final recommendation for the *Virtue in an Age of Promiscuity* ladies retreat is to offer it again. The following are format suggestions:

- Teachers/facilitators and speaker should be recruited on the recommendation of congregational leadership.
- Each track (by age or other grouping) should hear the same message on a particular topic.
- Small group break-outs should include an interactive activity, such as a role play.
- A behavioral pre- and post-test evaluation should be administered to measure self-efficacy for virtuous living.

If offered in 2013, it is recommended that the event end after lunch (shorter day).



## Appendix 1

### Adult/Teen Evaluation Form

(check one)  Adult Class  Teen Class

#### ADULT EVALUATION

##### Attitude Workshop

(check the appropriate box for each category)

	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
I gained knowledge about Christian attitude.				
Content was easy to understand				
Content matched workshop subject				
Topics covered in sufficient detail				
Overall rating of the workshop				

COMMENTS \_\_\_\_\_

##### Respect Workshop

(check the appropriate box for each category)

	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
I learned what it means to respect myself.				
Content was easy to understand				
Content matched workshop subject				
Topics covered in sufficient detail				
Overall rating of the workshop				

COMMENTS \_\_\_\_\_

##### Courage Workshop

(check the appropriate box for each category)

	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
I learned how to be courageous in Christ.				
Content was easy to understand				
Content matched workshop subject				
Topics covered in sufficient detail				
Overall rating of the workshop				

COMMENTS \_\_\_\_\_

##### Wisdom Workshop

(check the appropriate box for each category)

	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
I learned what it means to be wise in the Lord.				
Content was easy to understand				
Content matched workshop subject				
Topics covered in sufficient detail				
Overall rating of the workshop				

COMMENTS \_\_\_\_\_

1. Overall, the *Virtue in an Age of Promiscuity* ladies retreat was (circle the number corresponding with your choice):

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
<i>Organized</i>	5	4	3	2	1
<i>Informative</i>	5	4	3	2	1
<i>Inspirational</i>	5	4	3	2	1
<i>Spiritually Uplifting</i>	5	4	3	2	1

2. I would attend the *Virtue in an Age of Promiscuity* ladies retreat if it was offered again (check one):

Yes  No If no, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

3. I would recommend the *Virtue in an Age of Promiscuity* ladies retreat to a friend if it were to be offered again

(check one):  Yes  No

If no, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

4. What topics would you like to see discussed at a future *Virtue* event?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_







## Appendix 2


### Elementary Evaluation Form


#### CHILDREN'S EVALUATION

**INSTRUCTIONS TO TEACHERS:** Have participant check the appropriate box based on how she felt about each workshop. Best if completed at the end of each workshop. Collect at the end of the day, before the closing devotional, and drop in evaluation box in the registration area.







			
<b>Attitude Workshop</b>	<i>Not Good</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Great</i>
I liked the lesson.			
My teacher explained things.			
I learned how to have a Christian attitude.			






			
<b>Respect Workshop</b>	<i>Not Good</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Great</i>
I liked the lesson.			
My teacher explained things.			
I learned how to show respect.			



			
<b>Courage Workshop</b>	<i>Not Good</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Great</i>
I liked the lesson.			
My teacher explained things.			
I learned how to be courageous.			



			
<b>Wisdom Workshop</b>	<i>Not Good</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Great</i>
I liked the lesson.			
My teacher explained things.			
I learned what it means to show Christian wisdom.			

