

## Marriage and Women's Retreats Ideas and Games

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[www.cwives.com](http://www.cwives.com): "Christian Wives Initiating, Valuing, and Enjoying Sex"—this is a clean website

- 1) Provide participants with a stick on name tag for each day of the retreat. Even if they all go to the same church, there will be people who aren't sure of everyone's name. Add a list of all participants' names to the retreat booklet so that couples can more easily remember the names of the couples they met.
- 2) At beginning of retreat, for an icebreaker activity, have couples find another couple they don't know well, and find out how long they have been married, kids' ages, occupations, etc. After sharing information, have couples introduce the other couple to the group. Great way for couples to meet and to also have a group introduction.
- 3) Encourage couples to sit and eat meals with couples they don't know as well.
- 4) Prior to the retreat, have each wife write down a favorite memory from her engagement, wedding or honeymoon. At the retreat, have another woman read it aloud without using names. When the correct husband recognizes the memory, he says "that's us!" Cute way to find out more information about couples.
- 5) In couples' rooms, place an envelope that says "For His eyes only." Inside put a dime store ring with instructions for the husband to propose again to his wife using this ring at some point in the retreat. It's fun to note when different women show up wearing their ring throughout the retreat. ("Look, Joan got a ring!")
- 6) Put a long-stemmed red rose on each couple's bed along with a note welcoming them to the retreat and encouraging them to be open and loving.
- 7) You can play Treasure Hunt either all at once or space it out throughout your event. The great thing about this game is that everyone can play and no skill is required. It also helps people get to know one another. Announce one of the scenarios below. The winner gets a small gift (*eg. a rose, a chocolate bar, a candle, etc*).

## Treasure Hunt Marriage Retreat Search List

Announce... "I am looking for..."

01. ...the couple, who on my "go," can hold the longest sustained kiss without looking around."
02. ...the couple who can show me the most pictures of the two of them together."
03. ...the person wearing the most gifts given to them by their spouse."
04. ...the couple who can tell me the funniest real-life honeymoon story."
05. ...the couple who birthed the most children between their wedding day and 5th anniversary."
06. ...the couple who had the shortest honeymoon."
07. ...the couple married on or closest to an official holiday."

08. ...the couple married on or closest to one of their birthdays."
09. ...the person who has given the most creative Valentine's gift to their spouse at any time."
10. ...the person who has done the sweetest thing for their spouse's parents."
11. ...the couple with the most unique hobby they enjoy doing together."
12. ...the couple that looks most alike."
13. ...the couple who lived the furthest apart when they went out on their first date."
14. ...the couple who has traveled the furthest distance together this year."
15. ...the couple who have the most matching letters in their first and middle names (*e.g., Sam Peter and Mary Jane have 4 matching letters...a, m, e and r*)."

### **Treasure Hunt Women's Retreat Search List**

Announce... "I am looking for..."

01. ... the oldest person present."
  02. ... the person wearing the highest heels."
  03. ... the person who has been to the most countries in the last 5 years."
  04. ... the person wearing the most buttons."
  05. ... the person with the youngest child."
  06. ... the first person to show me a photo of someone wearing a hat."
  07. ... the person with the longest hair."
  08. ... the person with the most children."
  09. ... the person who travelled the furthest distance to be here."
  10. ... the person with the most credit cards in their purse/wallet."
  11. ... the person who owns the most pairs of shoes."
  12. ... the person who brought the most pennies with them."
  13. ... the person wearing the longest earrings."
  14. ... the person who drove the oldest car to this event."
  15. ... the person with the longest fingernails."
- 8) If your meeting room is large enough to put all their chairs in a circle and couples are dressed casually, try playing "Do You Love Your Neighbor?" Make a large circle with enough chairs for everyone to sit in except for one person (who is the Questioner). The Questioner approaches someone and asks "Jane/John, do you love your neighbor?" Jane can answer 2 different ways. 1) If she says, "Yes, I love my neighbor," then the people seated on either side of her have to switch seats while the Questioner is also trying to get in one of their seats. Jane doesn't move. Someone will be left without a seat and that person becomes the Questioner. 2) If she says, "No, I don't love my neighbor," then she adds, "But I do love people who....(fill in the blank—people who are wearing tennis shoes, people who were born in Kentucky, people who go to marriage retreats, people who have on lipstick, etc.)" All the people in the circle who fit that description have to jump up and find a new seat while the Questioner is also trying to find a seat. Someone will be left without a seat and that person becomes the Questioner. While there is no winner to this game, at the end of the game you can give a prize to the person who seems to be left standing without a seat the most (if you want).

This is a great game for Saturday morning. People are sleepy and this gets their blood pumping and creates a lot of laughter. Usually playing this for 15 minutes or so is enough.

- 9) As couples are leaving sexuality presentation and returning to their rooms to discuss “knee to knee” questions, pass out a bag to each couple with the following printed papers inside with candy attached (this idea works particularly well for a Valentine’s Weekend retreat when these candies are available in stores):
- a. Paper that says “Let’s make it PAYDAY more than once a week!”
  - b. Let’s have MOUNDS of fun!
  - c. Cupid was no AIRHEAD when he chose you as my SWEETTARTS HEARTS.
  - d. You cause a total ECLIPSE (gum) of my heart!
  - e. How do you like it? (Sticker placed on box of GOOD & PLENTY)
  - f. Have fun with these! (Sticker placed on bag of CONVERSATION HEARTS)
  - g. What puts you in the mood? Tell your partner! (green M & M’s)
  - h. No excuses! Just take 2! (2 Tylenol)
  - i. Before and After (little bag of HUGS and KISSES)
  - j. Folded piece of paper that says “For her eyes only” on the outside. Inside it says “Challenge: Set aside time to initiate an intimate moment—ENTHUSIASTICALLY!”
  - k. Attach a card with Genesis 2:24 to outside of candy bag.
- 10) Play the Not So Newlywed game using couples everyone knows, such as ministers or Sunday School teachers and their spouses. The starred questions below have been successful and funny in the past. Three questions for the men and three for the women are plenty. People get tired of the game if it takes more than 30 minutes or so. Ask the women a fourth tie breaker question and keep it in reserve in case there is a tie.

For Women:

Where did your husband take you on your first date?

\* If you asked your husband to cook dinner one evening, what would he prepare?

How much cash does your husband have on him right now?

What size shoes does your husband wear?

What is your husband's favorite leisure time activity?

Does your husband carry a pix of you in his wallet?

What is the character or sound that your husband imitates best?

\* What will your husband admit he does more like a girl? Will he say it's the way he:

Laughs, Walks, Runs, or Throws

How would your husband say you would complete this sentence? This is his wife talking  
"My husband loves BLANK so much he could make an infomercial about it."

You just came home to find messages on your answering machine from your mother, your husband, and your best girlfriend. In what order will your husband say you are likely to return the calls?

\* Who's family will your husband say is more dysfunctional, yours or his?

\* At what age will your husband say the average man goes from being a "Hunk of Burning Love" to a "Couch Potato?"

\* How will your husband complete this sentence: "My wife is a natural born \_\_\_\_\_?"

How long will your husband say it takes you to get ready to go out?

On average, how much money will your husband say your family spends on groceries each week?

On average, how many times a day will your husband say he kisses you?

For Men:

\* Where did you first kiss your wife?

Who was the last boy your wife dated before you were married?

Where did you first meet your wife?

Which one of your habits would your wife like to break?

Using one descriptive word that begins with the first initial of your last name, how will your wife describe you on your first date together?

\* If you gave your wife \$30, what would she buy?

In what month is your mother-in-law's birthday?

\* How will your wife complete this sentence? "My husband has more BLANK than anyone else I know."

What will your wife say is her favorite bedtime snack?

What will your wife say is the one home appliance the two of you need the most?

What will your wife say is the one thing about you that attracts the most attention when you are in a large crowd?

\* Which movie title will your wife say best describes the very last girlfriend you had before she came along? "13 Going On 30," "Too Fast, Too Furious," "Never Been Kissed," or "Pretty in Pink?"

\* Who will your wife say has a higher IQ, you or her?

\* On a scale of one to ten, with a ten being James Bond, how will your wife rate your overall impact on women?

8) Family Feud: You will need a lively person to be the Host and a scorekeeper. Pick four to six couples and divide them into two teams of two to three couples. Each team would be like a family on Family Feud. The remaining couples are the audience. Use four questions for the team to team competition and reserve five questions for the Fast Money round at the end.

The teams should be lined up on opposite sides of the room. A single member from each team comes forward to answer one of the four questions. Members must hit the buzzer (dollar store light or buzzer can be used or just slap a table) first to answer the question. If they hit the buzzer at the same time, they both get to give an answer and the one with the most popular answer is the winner. The member who answers correctly first (or gives the more popular response) has the option to pass or play. This means that the member can elect to have his/her team attempt to guess the remaining answers or they may pass the play to the other team to guess the remaining answers. Each team is given three wrong answers on every question, and once they have given three wrong answers, then the alternate team is allowed to provide a single correct answer to the

question and may steal all the points (including the answer they gave). If the alternate team doesn't provide a correct answer, then the first team gets the accumulated points.

The team with the most points after 4 questions goes on to play Fast Money and chooses two members to play the round. One team member leaves the room while the other is given 20 seconds to answer five questions. If he or she cannot think up an answer to a question, he or she may pass. A team member may revisit a passed question at the end, time permitting. The number of people giving each answer is revealed once all five answers are given or time has expired (whichever comes first). The player earns one point for each person that gave the same answer; at least two people must have given that answer for it to score. When revealing the number of people giving the same response, the host says the familiar phrase, "Survey said!..." Once all the points for the first player are tallied, the second team member comes back and is given 25 seconds to answer the same five questions. The host will ask for another response should a duplicate answer be made. If the team accumulates 200 points or more, they win Fast Money!

## **Valentine Family Feud Survey Results**

100 people were surveyed via an internet online form.  
The top answers for each question are listed.

### **01. Name a popular Valentine greeting card company.**

92 - Hallmark  
06 - American Greetings  
02 - Carlton

### **02. Name one saying on a Valentine conversation heart candy.**

34 - Be Mine  
33 - I love you/Luv you  
14 - Kiss Me  
04 - Hug Me  
04 - Love Me  
02 - Sweet Talk

### **03. Name a popular Valentine gift?**

32 - Chocolate  
23 - Candy  
20 - Roses  
13 - Flowers  
04 - Teddy Bear  
03 - Lingerie  
03 - Jewelry  
02 - Perfume

### **04. Besides "Darling", name a popular term of endearment.**

51 - Honey  
25 - Sweetheart  
13 - Sweetie  
05 - Dear  
04 - Love  
02 - Baby

### **05. Name a popular aphrodisiac.**

43 - chocolate  
29 - oysters  
08 - wine/champagne  
08 - strawberries  
02 - grapes

### **06. In what country did Valentine's Day originate?**

36 - France  
19 - Italy  
15 - America/USA  
06 - Ireland  
06 - Britain/England

- 05 - Germany
- 04 - Spain
- 03 - Sweden
- 02 - Greece

**07. What is another word for love?**

- 49 - amour/amore
- 11 - adore
- 05 - affection
- 04 - lust
- 04 - passion
- 04 - like
- 03 - agape
- 03 - romance
- 02 - cherish

**08. Other than red, what color of roses are commonly sent on Valentine's Day?**

- 59 - pink
- 25 - white
- 13 - yellow
- 02 - purple

**09. Name a popular chocolate manufacturer.**

- 46 - Hershey
- 27 - Godiva
- 05 - Cadbury
- 05 - Russell Stover
- 04 - Whitman
- 02 - Lindt
- 02 - Purdy
- 02 - Nestle

**10. What is the most romantic language?**

- 64 - French
- 21 - Italian
- 07 - English
- 06 - Spanish

**11. Name a popular romantic comedy.**

- 29 - Sleepless in Seattle
- 18 - When Harry Met Sally
- 10 - You've Got Mail
- 07 - I Love Lucy
- 06 - Pretty Woman
- 05 - How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days
- 04 - While You Were Sleeping
- 03 - 50 First Dates
- 03 - Love Actually
- 03 - Something's Got to Give
- 02 - You, Me, and Dupree
- 02 - The Break Up

**12. Name a popular song with the word "love" in the TITLE.**

- 18 - Love Me Tender
- 12 - I Will Always Love You
- 07 - All You Need is Love
- 07 - What's Love Got to Do With It
- 06 - I love You
- 05 - L.O.V.E.
- 04 - Love Me Do
- 04 - Endless Love
- 04 - Love is in the Air
- 03 - Love Stinks
- 03 - Love is a Wonderful Thing
- 03 - Love Hurts
- 02 - I Think I Love You
- 02 - Love is a Battlefield
- 02 - Love Will Keep Us Together
- 02 - Love Shack
- 02 - Baby Love
- 02 - Love Train
- 02 - Because You Loved Me

**13. Name the best place to go on a Valentine date.**

- 70 - dinner/restaurant

09 - movie/theater  
08 - hotel  
04 - bed  
03 - beach  
02 - picnic

**14. Name a popular lingerie company.**

69 - Victoria's Secret  
16 - Frederick's of Hollywood  
06 - La Senza  
02 - La Vie en Rose  
02 - Secret Treasures  
02 - Silk and Satin

**15. Members of what occupation traditionally receive the most Valentine's?**

64 - teachers  
16 - secretaries  
05 - housewives/moms  
03 - waitresses  
03 - nurses

9) If you are having a dinner at your Valentine's Day Marriage Retreat, below are some trivia questions you could print up and put on each table for conversation starters. The table that gets the most right could be recognized at some point.

## **Valentine Trivia Questions**

**01. What famous actress was born on February 14?**

a. Florence Henderson  
b. Audrey Hepburn  
c. Patricia Richardson  
d. Farrah Fawcett-Majors

**02. What famous actor was born on February 14?**

a. Gary Coleman  
b. Ashton Kutcher  
c. Gregory Hines  
d. Billy Crystal

**03. What historical event transpired on Valentine's Day in 1950?**

a. Britain abolished the death penalty  
b. U.S.S.R. and China signed a peace treaty  
c. Russia broke diplomatic relations with Israel  
d. Stalin met with Beria, Bulganin, Khrushchev and Malenkov

**04. Who wrote the lyrics to "My Funny Valentine"?**

a. Richard Rogers  
b. Barabara Striesand  
c. Lorenz Hart  
d. Miles Davis

**05. What type of movie is the 2001 film "Valentine"?**

a. comedy  
b. horror  
c. action  
d. drama

**06. In what year did Hallmark make its first Valentine card?**

- a. 1957
- b. 1941
- c. 1924
- d. 1913

**07. Where was the first Valentine's Day card sent from?**

- a. the battlefield
- b. a monastery
- c. a prison
- d. a hospital

**08. What conversation heart saying was added in 2005?**

- a. Be Mine
- b. Love Me Tender
- c. Bear Hug
- d. Heart of Gold

**09. Approximately what percentage of Valentine's Day cards are purchased by women?**

- a. 24
- b. 47
- c. 68
- d. 85

**10. Who was Cupid's father?**

- a. Eros
- b. Ares
- c. Vesta
- d. Anteros

**11. Who was Cupid's mother?**

- a. Aphrodite
- b. Artemis
- c. Hera
- d. Venus

**12. According to mythology, what was once celebrated on Valentine's Day?**

- a. Fertility
- b. Virginity
- c. Romance
- d. Marriage

**13. Approximately how many calories can be burned by kissing for one minute?**

- a. 16 calories
- b. 26 calories
- c. 36 calories
- d. 46 calories

**14. According to statistics, in what profession do people receive the most Valentine's Day cards?**

- a. Nurses
- b. Secretaries
- c. Teachers
- d. Librarians

**15. Since the 1950s, how has Valentine's Day been customarily celebrated in Japan?**



- a. Couples exchange white doves
- b. Men give women white chocolate
- c. Women give men chocolate
- d. Romantic meals are served on white table settings

**16. What Italian city receives thousands of cards addressed to Juliet every Valentine's Day?**

- a. Rome
- b. Verona
- c. Venice
- d. Florence

**17. According to Roman mythology, what liquid that spilled by Cupid caused roses to grow?**

- a. nectar
- b. rose oil
- c. patchouli oil
- d. red wine

**18. What were Esther Howland's valentines known for?**

- a. price
- b. color
- c. availability
- d. beauty

**19. In what country's museum can you find the oldest known Valentine still in existence?**

- a. Italy
- b. England
- c. Greece
- d. France

**20. In Shakespearean times what bodily organ was associated with love?**

- a. liver
- b. kidneys
- c. brain
- d. stomach

## Valentine Trivia Answers

**01.** a. Florence Henderson / **02.** c. Gregory Hines / **03.** b. U.S.S.R. and China signed a peace treaty / **04.** c. Lorenz Hart / **05.** b. horror / **06.** d. 1913 / **07.** c. from prison / **08.** c. Bear Hug / **09.** d. 85 / **10.** b. Ares / **11.** d. Venus / **12.** a. Fertility / **13.** b. 26 calories / **14.** c. Teachers / **15.** c. Women give men chocolate / **16.** b. Verona / **17.** a. nectar / **18.** d. beauty / **19.** b. England / **20.** a. liver