

ABW Elective

ABW Elective is an initiative and opportunity to involve women in a 6-8 week small group Bible study that also includes a mission component. A mission project, that will financially help a ministry supported by ABW, either locally or globally through Canadian Baptist Ministries (CBM), will help encourage women to be involved in mission and connect with ABW. The small group Bible study will encourage women to read God's Word and discuss its truths.

The ABW Elective is not to replace an existing WMS / ABW group in your church. It is a different style of a group, more suited to women who are busy with work and raising families yet desire to connect with women in a spiritually enriching and mission minded way.

The ABW Elective provides an opportunity for women, who already participate in ABW, to involve other women who do not come to an existing group.

The ABW elective is an alternative to a traditional group. Invite women of your church to join together for a 6-8 week small group study and a mission project that supports one of our ABW home missions within the Atlantic Provinces or Canadian Baptist Ministries.

**Partnering to serve Christ
in communities
at home and around the world –
learning and growing together**

How to begin:

Step 1: Pray about starting an ABW Elective group

If the Lord is leading you to initiate this small group...

Step 2: Invite the women of your church and community to join together for a 6-8 week small group study and a mission project that financially supports one of the ABW home missions within the Atlantic Provinces or a Canadian Baptist Ministries project. Be creative in how you raise funds for this project. One idea is, "Toonie Tuesdays". A basket may be left on a table for those who want to contribute.

Step 3: The study book should have sound Biblical principles and include scripture. The suggested book on the 2022 ABW Reads! list: *Made to Move Mountains* by Kristen Welch.

Each woman should have her own book, read the chapter during the week and be ready to discuss the information with the others in the group.

Step 4: Decide where and when you will meet. An hour or hour and thirty minutes are suggested lengths of time.

Step 5: Promote this small group opportunity and invite women.

Step 6: Order the books you need in time for the first meeting, each woman may purchase her own book.

Books may be ordered from:
Sonshine Books & Gifts; contacts:

e-mail: sonshinebooksandgifts@gmail.com
or phone: 902-859-3781

Step 7: Meet together!

If the group is larger than twelve you may consider dividing into two small groups to discuss the questions on the chapter. Have a confident leader ask the questions and encourage responses as well as discussion among the women. One person should not do all the talking or dominate the discussion time.

A prayer time is important. Have a time of prayer before or after the discussion. Ask if there are prayer requests.

Prayer cards of our Canadian Baptist Ministries Global and National Field Staff may also be distributed or you may choose to give each one the prayer card of your

church's CBM partner in mission.

Have a time of prayer, remembering to include the CBM Global and National Field Staff. One person in the group may pray aloud covering all the requests or several women in the group may pray aloud. Use a method that is comfortable for the women of your group.

After the last week the leaders of the ABW elective may want to discuss: What went well? What needs improvement? Will the small group meet again? What book will be chosen for the next ABW elective?

Suggested Mission Projects: The women could financially support the 2024 Great Canadian Bible Study (GCBS) project. Contact ABW office for details.

One of the Home Mission ministries, supported by ABW, is Trauma Recovery for Exploited Youth. This ministry to survivors of sexploitation could be financially supported by the ABW Elective. The Home Mission budget shows a variety of ministries that are supported by ABW.

Send offering, for the mission project, to your ABW Provincial Treasurer. Include information about designating the offering for the chosen project. Contact the ABW office for treasurer contact information: 506-382-3898 atlanticbaptistwomen@gmail.com

NOTE: We would like to know if you initiated an ABW elective group and the response of the women. Please contact: atlanticbaptistwomen@gmail.com or 506-382-3898.

**Impacting the World
for Christ**

“Be A Neighbour!” Projects

What would be the effect if Baptist women performed, “Be A Neighbour!” activities throughout the Atlantic Provinces? Do you expect you would see some change? Would these opportunities to help others bring glory to God?

During 2021-2022 engage women in your WMS /ABW group, as well as women from your church, in a community project that will demonstrate kindness and God’s love. Be creative! Determine to meet a practical need for those living in your community.

Pray together asking the Lord to show you a specific need, that the women of your church can meet and that you will hear what He is calling you to do. Pray that those in the community, to whom you will show kindness, will see Christ’s love evident and that the Holy Spirit will draw people to our Heavenly Father. You may visit places that provide community services in your area to learn about the needs for volunteer help and needs in the community that have not yet been met.



How to Begin:

Step 1: Pray, discuss and decide on a project that would show kindness and help people in the community. The opportunity to care for others may take personal time and energy rather than be a financial project.

Step 2: Choose a date and time

Step 3: Inform and invite women of the church to participate.

Step 4: Organize the necessary details and bless others by being their neighbour.

Step 5: Debrief with those who participated. How was the help received? What went well? What needed improvement? How did you see God at work as you served others?

Send a brief story of your project and if possible, a picture to the *Tidings Magazine*; tidingsed@gmail.com. Some stories and pictures may be posted on Facebook or printed in the *Tidings Magazine*.

