We have different gifts, according to the grace given us” (Romans 12:6, NIV).
Discipleship Ministry offers friendship, instruction, and support with the goal of integrating new members into the life of the congregation. Studies show that people need to have at least five friends in a church or organization before they feel at home and are willing to stay. An important part of discipleship ministry is helping new members to grow in Christ.

For online resources on Discipleship Ministry go to: www.adventistwomensministries and download Outreach is for Everyone: Women’s Ministries Evangelism Manual. Also visit www.growingfruitfuldisciples.com

How to Begin

- Form a committee responsible for effective integration of new members.
- Encourage your members to choose new members to befriend. Be sure every new member is “friended.”
- Hold a banquet once or twice a year to introduce new members to the congregation.
- Be sure each new member is visited once a week during the first month, then once a month for the first year.
- Invite new members to participate in a small group for intentional spiritual growth.
- Share special books, such as Women’s Devotionals, Spirit of Prophecy books, or church magazines.

“After individuals have been converted to the truth, they need to be looked after....These newly converted ones need nursing, –watchful attention, help, and encouragement. These should not be left alone, a prey to Satan’s most powerful temptations; they need to be educated in regard to their duties, to be kindly dealt with, to be led along, and to be apportioned to every man in due season” (Ellen G White, Evangelism, p. 351).