

50's Diner

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Invitations: Cut invitation-sized circles from black poster board. Print information about your event in smaller circles on white paper, and glue these into the center to look like 45 records.

When promoting event and inviting women, encourage them to wear 50's fashions such as Poodle skirts, Chiffon scarves, Cat-eye glasses, etc.

Welcome: Have a "Please Wait To be Seated" sign that can be seen as ladies enter. Have servers dressed in black bottoms, white shirts and sneakers seat the ladies at a table. (Servers could be WM committee or men or youth from Corps.) Have appropriate 50's music playing in the background.

Decorations: Set up individual tables for 4-6 people and cover with red checked clothes that can be purchased at most dollar stores. Have slim glass vases with yellow flowers for center pieces along with plastic Ketchup and Mustard bottles that can also be purchased at most dollar stores. Decorate the walls with old records and cardboard record covers. These act as great signs and pictures and will give a 50's Diner feel to the room. Any other 50's décor that would create the atmosphere would be appropriate. Check your local party supply stores or dollar stores.

Guests: Have someone share their story of living in the 50's or their personal testimony of how God has changed their life. If you know of a Roller Skating group or an individual who can roller skate invite them to come in and do a demonstration.

Activities: Set up a "Mini Hair Salon" where ladies can choose to have their hair set in rollers with old-fashioned sponge rollers. Have an area set up where ladies can get their picture taken with a friend. Have games such as chess and snakes 'n' ladders available to play as well as hopscotch. Have Karaoke with 50's music. Ladies will enjoy this as it will take them back to their youth. And you could have hula-hoops available just for the fun of it!

Games/Ice-breakers: Have a twisting contest. Ask volunteers to twist to the song, "Let's twist again", and have the others ladies be the judges. Have a bubble blowing contest. Pass out Bazooka Bubble Gum and see who can blow the biggest bubble. Play Lucky Limbo. Grab a broomstick, and see how low the ladies can go! These games could also be used as ice-breakers to begin the evening before the meal.

Refreshments/ Meal: Serve burgers and chip with Coke in Glass bottles or set up create-your-own root beer float station. Serve apple pie fore dessert. I would suggest beginning the evening with the meal.

Prizes: Give everyone a number when they arrive and have prizes wrapped in newspaper or in a brown paper bag. Prizes could include 1950's type candy such as candy lipsticks, candy necklaces, root beer barrels, cherry and orange slices, and Pez.

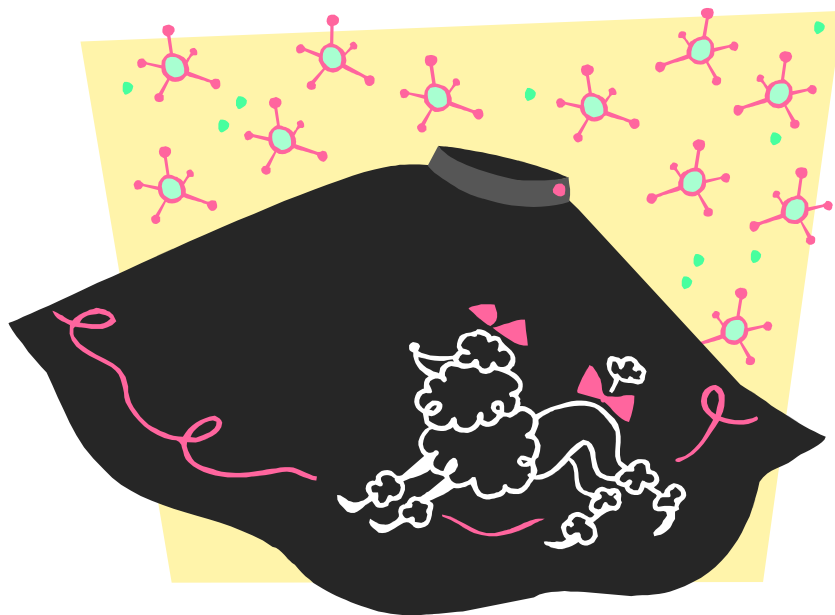
Devotional: The Unchanging God

Show various slides of fashion, technology, etc. from the 50's. These can be found online. Compare it to today's fashion and technology. Some examples include Slates and Smartboards, iPods & Records, Poodle Skirts & Pencil Skirts.

Wow! There certainly has been a lot of changes over the past five or six decades. Even as we think about the last ten years, the changes have been huge. This evening however I want to remind you that despite the changing all around us there is one constant. The Lord is our unchanging refuge and strength in this rapidly changing world. He is our anchor when we face many changes which can affect us deeply. We all experience changes in our home, workplace, with relationships, in nature, with our finances, in health, culture, with fashion, laws, government, status, people, etc.

We're together as friends this evening, and we all have special friendships that we cherish, but ladies I want to tell you that God is our faithful friend. And by faith in Jesus Christ, believing what God has done for us we can have a relationship with the unchanging God. Malachi 3:6 says, "I the Lord do not change." We can depend on God to be the same forever, as the psalmist says in Psalm 102:27, "But you remain the same, and your years will never end." This is very reassuring as we live and deal with change. When everything around us is changing and we don't know what to believe or what to think, we can always know that Jesus remains the same. His love for us remains the same. His truth remains the same. That is one thing we can count on. And Hebrews 13:11 adds to this reassuring testimony: "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever." He is our firm foundation, who can give us confidence and security in the changing world.

A quote to take with you: "To face life's changes, look to the unchanging God."



Sample Program Outline

50's Diner Menu

Welcome

Ice breakers

Bazooka Bubble Gum blowing contest

“Let's do the twist” contest

Lucky Limbo

Dinner

Burgers & Chips

Coca Cola or Root Beer Float

Apple Pie/Ice Cream/Tea & Coffee

Story-50's Experience or Testimony

Games/Connection & Fellowship Time

(30-45 minutes for women to take part in any of the following activities
or to simply chat)

Games-Chess/Snakes 'n' Ladders/Hopscotch

Visit the Hair Salon and have your hair set in rollers.

Karaoke-Sing out those 50's tunes.

Hula Hooping

Prizes

Devotional & Closing Prayer