

2014 Ladies Retreat
“Changing Into Children”
Matt. 18: 3
November 7 & 8
Kabakona Hills Retreat Center
Rolla, MO

Our 2014 Ladies Retreat, “Changing Into Children”, began on Friday afternoon, November 7th at the Kabakona Hills Retreat Center located just outside Rolla, Missouri. As the ladies arrived they registered, received goody bags and notebooks, found a place to bed down for the night and had time to explore their home for the weekend. The three story house was full of childhood games and activities designed to draw out the childlike heart of each participant. There was a craft table where the “children” could decorate and personalize their notebooks. There were activities available like hop scotch, pig snout soccer and shuffle board along with lots of Bible-based coloring pages and worksheets. There were toys to play with like puzzles, Jenga, Old Maid and Go Fish. There was even a doll house and some Legos to help bring out their creative inner child.

After a Kid’s Buffet dinner where our favorite childhood dish was shared, we all got cozy in the sun room and enjoyed some Bible stories before heading out to the fire pit to sing praises to God. Of course “tubby time” must take place before bedtime so a few of the ladies enjoyed the hot tub by the outdoor fire pit before retiring for the evening. Others visited, snacked, played cards and even had a good old-fashioned pillow fight.

Saturday began with a devotional by the waterfall led by Ina Ruth McKune followed by a continental breakfast. The morning sessions included Play Time designed to help everyone remember what it was like to just have fun; Discovery Time, which provided everyone with the opportunity to spend some time with the Almighty Creator; and Show and Tell, which gave everyone the chance to share something they had discovered.

At noon we all enjoyed a typical childhood sack lunch, which consisted of a peanut butter, bologna or turkey sandwich, chips, fruit and a Ho Ho, Ding Dong or Twinkie for desert.

After lunch, Linda Roberts facilitated a debrief of the weekend’s activities. We brainstormed a list of typical childlike characteristics and then discussed how each of these basic traits should be applied to the lives of all who call themselves children of God. Everyone was encouraged not to let adult trials and struggles squash their inner child.