

Finding Your Bold

An Ice-Breaker



Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. Not that we are competent of ourselves to claim anything as coming from us; our competence is from God, who made us competent to be ministers of a new covenant. ...Since then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness.

2 Corinthians 3:4–6a, 12

Getting Started: What Is Boldness?

Boldness is a call to action. As Women of the ELCA, women who are claimed and called by God, we believe that a life lived boldly is a faith-filled celebration and an investment in the world we want for ourselves and our children. Women of the ELCA are called “to mobilize women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ.” Boldness comes in many forms; its basis, in whatever form, is right action by an individual or group. Some boldness is bright and loud. Some is firm and quiet. Women of the ELCA celebrates this range of voices, knowing that the avenues for bold self-expression are limitless. Do you have a definition of BOLD? What do you believe is your best BOLD?

Opening Bold Litany

Leader: May the strength of God pilot us,
May the power of God preserve us,
May the wisdom of God instruct us,
May the hand of God protect us,
May the way of God direct us,
May the shield of God defend us,
May the host of God guard us against the
snares of evil and the temptations of the world.
Amen.

How to Use This Resource

This resource is developed from the I am She program and can be used in any small group setting as an ice-breaker activity. This is a 35-40 minute tool designed for groups to use at the kickoff of a meeting, workshop, or other group time. The opening sets the table for all who participate to enjoy a fruitful self-examination of personal gifts. The sections that follow have suggested time allotments that can be adjusted as needed for your particular group. The closing ends with prayer and song.

The purpose of this resource is for participants to determine the categories of BOLD they define themselves as fitting into. It also will help participants meet others who have similar interests as well as learn from those who have different bold ways. A clearer understanding of our own gifts—as well as the different gifts of others—can lead to better use of and greater appreciation for what all God’s children bring to our lives and share with our church. The statements in the chart on page three are grouped into three broad categories of bold: bold in Action, bold in Caring, and bold in Teaching (ACT). These categories are explored in more depth in the longer program, I Am She.

Leader: Loving God, thank you for creating us to be bold, and let your light shine in all we say and do.

All: **Let the light so shine!**

Leader: God of life and wholeness, keep us ever vigilant to your presence and empower us by your Spirit.

All: **Let the light so shine!**

Leader: Open our hearts and minds to all the gifts you have given.

All: **Let the light so shine!**

Leader: Let the warmth of your care challenge us to become what you have called us to be.

All: **Let the light so shine!**

Hymn *Shine, Jesus, Shine*

All: **Gracious God, by your Spirit empower us. Give us courage, grant us wholeness, and fill us with love.**

Help us to live with the certainty that we are better off together than we are separated, from you or from each other.

Because we have you, nothing can shake our confidence in this world or the next. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

Part I: Finding Your Bold in Community (10 mins.)

List your personal resources in each category below.

My Talents

My Friends and Family

My Hobbies and Skills

My Education and Training

My Finances



Part II: Finding Your Bold in Community (5 mins.)

Look back at the personal resource list you created in Part I. Circle the resources you think are your top ones in each category. You may have more in some areas than others.

On the chart below, place your initials in the squares you believe illustrate those top circled resources. This will assist you as you share your interests and compare them with others in the group.

<p>I AM SHE WHO HAS AN UNUSUAL SENSE OF KINDNESS TOWARD ALL CREATED THINGS</p> <p>C</p>	<p>I AM SHE WHO WORKS IN A SOUP KITCHEN, PRISON, OR HOSPITAL</p> <p>A</p>	<p>I AM SHE WHO CARES</p> <p>C</p>	<p>I AM SHE WHO TEACHES OTHERS WHAT I KNOW</p> <p>T</p>
<p>I AM SHE WHO GROUNDS HERSELF IN GOD'S WORD THROUGH STUDY AND MEDITATION</p> <p>T</p>	<p>I AM SHE WHO GIVES MY TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURE</p> <p>C</p>	<p>I AM SHE WHO LEADS OTHERS</p> <p>T</p>	<p>I AM SHE WHO WORKS FOR THE BIG PICTURE THAT IS FILLED WITH HOPE</p> <p>A</p>
<p>I AM SHE WHO IS CONSCIOUS OF THE COMMUNITY AROUND HER</p> <p>A</p>	<p>I AM SHE WHO OBSERVES THINGS AROUND ME AND SEES GOD AT WORK</p> <p>T</p>	<p>I AM SHE WHO IS NOT AFRAID OF CONFRONTATION</p> <p>A</p>	<p>I AM SHE WHO SERVES OTHERS</p> <p>C</p>
<p>I AM SHE WHO KNOWS HOW TO GRACIOUSLY RECEIVE AS WELL AS GIVE</p> <p>C</p>	<p>I AM SHE WHO HAS A PASSION FOR JUSTICE</p> <p>A</p>	<p>I AM SHE WHO LEARNS AND GROWS</p> <p>T</p>	<p>I AM SHE WHO SPEAKS FOR THOSE WHO HAVE NO VOICE</p> <p>A</p>
<p>I AM SHE WHO SHARES THE GOSPEL IN WORD & DEED</p> <p>T</p>	<p>I AM SHE WHO IS A GOOD STEWARD OF GOD'S CREATION AND GIFTS</p> <p>C</p>	<p>I AM SHE WHO TAKES CARE OF HERSELF</p> <p>C</p>	<p>I AM SHE WHO DISCOVERS THINGS ABOUT HERSELF AND OTHERS THROUGHOUT LIFE</p> <p>T</p>

Part III: Getting to Know One Another's BOLD! (10 mins.)

Once you have completed filling out the chart, walk around the room to find out who fits the various categories. This helps you meet others who have similar interests as well as learn from those who have different bold ways.

Notes

Part IV: Brief Group Discussion (5 mins.)

Based on what you have just learned and discovered about yourself and others, has your definition of BOLD changed? How so? Discuss these observations and sit with the new information. How do you think this may impact how you view yourself or others?

Notes

Closing Prayer

Leader: Let us pray.

All: **God of joy and redemption, power, and purpose, as we are given new life in the power of your Holy Spirit, may we boldly proclaim your good news in our words and deeds, rejoicing always in your presence; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Leader: May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

Hymn *Canticle of the Turning*

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