

# Yarn-Sharing Experience

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In order to get your group to talk about their inner feelings, try using this technique. Ask the kids to stand in a circle. Pick up a ball of yarn (the size of the ball depends on the size of your group), and explain to the group that they are going to take part in a little experiment. Tell them that in a moment you are going to throw the ball of yarn (while holding on to the end so the yarn will unwind) to someone in the group. When that person catches the ball of yarn, he should talk about one of the following:

1. What God has done for him
2. What God has done for someone he knows
3. What God has done for all of us (Christ's death, given us his Word, etc.)
4. Something she is thankful for

After talking about one of the above, she will throw the ball to someone else in the circle (while holding onto the yarn). The next person who catches the ball will also talk about one of the four things above. Keep this going

until everyone in the group has had a chance to talk at least once (several times is best, but this depends on the size of your group and the time you have).

After you have made a web-like pattern with the yarn and everyone has had a chance to share, stop the ball and talk about what's happening.

1. What is this yarn doing for us physically? Answers will range around the idea of "holding us together." (Comment on the beautiful effect the sharing has created, and mention that for the pattern to evolve, everybody had to participate.)

2. Ask one or two members of the group to drop their hold of the yarn. Immediately the center web becomes loose and the effect is for the circle to widen a little. Then ask, "What happens to the group when someone drops their yarn?" (Mention that in talking about their feelings, a beautiful network of relationships and ties were formed—just like the yarn illustrates—but that it takes everyone to hold it together.)