



## Emcee Ideas

The role of the emcee is very important. We want to give you a few ideas that you can use to help people feel welcome and connected to what is happening at the conference. Remember, the emcee will represent not only the local church but the Legacy Coalition as well.

Consider sharing your emcee duties with someone else. Sometimes two heads are better than one for generating laughter, warmth and interaction. For example, if you ask the audience a question, your co-emcee can take a microphone out to the audience to get a response.

While you don't have to be a stand-up comedian, humor is encouraged. If you don't have a sense of humor, then it would be good to have a co-emcee who can fill that role (you can play the straight-man). Keep the "getting old" jokes to a minimum. When used sparingly, they can be funny—but not everyone appreciates being made fun of. Just keep in mind that this conference is not about getting old, it's about grandparenting. And remember, many grandparents in their 40's and 50's, don't feel or see themselves as old.

Communicate warmth, encouragement and enthusiasm! Welcome everyone and let them know how glad we are they have come. Let them know YOU are excited about the conference and you and your staff are there to serve them, help them have a wonderful experience, and get the most from the conference.

Provide the audience with essential information they might need at that time—like the location of the restrooms, where to find the conference store table, where to get lunch, who is available to answer questions, and so forth. Let them know what to do if they have special needs or prayer requests.

Help them navigate the conference workbooks and take advantage of other conference materials that will be provided. Familiarize yourself with the conference workbook and point out key features.

Keep an eye on the clock. Your job as emcee is to make sure things start and stop on time. If you see that a session is soon to begin—go on stage and encourage everyone to return to their seats as quickly as possible.

## Emcee Engagement Ideas

The ideas below are all optional. They are provided for use at your discretion. Be careful not to plan too much into the time you have. Do not go overtime as the conference live-feed will not wait for you to finish.

- You can recognize the youngest grandparent, or the one with the most grandkids, etc.
- Celebrate a birthday or an anniversary of someone present.
- Recognize those who came the farthest to attend the conference.
- Recognize any pastors or ministry leaders who are present.
- See if you can fulfill a special “wish” that was written on the cards.
- Sing a verse from a hymn or worship chorus that everybody knows. Lead them in prayer.
- On day two, ask a few people in the audience (use a roving microphone) to share a quick “Aha!” (something they learned) from the previous day.
- Play a game or lead a crowd ice-breaker like those listed in the next section.

## Ice-Breaker Activities

What do your grandchildren call you? Read the following list of the “most popular” nicknames grandchildren call their grandparents. Read them slowly and ask people to raise their hand if their grandchildren call them one of these nicknames. Then (for those who didn’t raise their hands) ask people to share what their grandchildren call them. You’ll get some pretty funny names.

### Most popular names for grandmothers:

- Grandma
- Nana
- Grammy
- Granny
- Mimi
- Gram
- Nanny
- Oma
- Mamaw
- Gran
- Abuela

### Most popular names for grandfathers:

- Grandpa
- Papa
- Granddad
- Gramps
- Pop-Pop
- Poppy
- Papaw
- Pop
- Opa
- Pappy
- Abuelo

## Ice-Breaker Activities (Cont.)

### Sit Down Game For Grandparents

To play this game, have everyone stand up. the object is to remain standing—unless one of the following characteristics apply to you! (The idea here is to get some laughs as well as to recognize a few people).

#### Sit Down If ...

- Your grandchildren made you come to this conference.
- You came to this conference because you couldn't find any other conferences for people our age.
- You came to this conference because you thought this might be a good place to "meet someone."
- You came to this conference because you heard that we were serving Chick-fil-a sandwiches for lunch.
- You actually don't remember why you came to this conference.
- You drove more than three hours to get here. (You can go take a nap if you did it this morning).
- You are raising one or more of your grandchildren.
- One or more of your grandchildren are raising you!
- You have grandchildren who live more than 1000 miles away from you.
- Most people don't think you look old enough to be a grandparent.
- Stand back up if the person next to you just sat down ... and was badly mistaken!
- give your grandchildren the moon", if they asked you.
- Stand back up if your grandchildren are the most precious in the world.
- The last time you had 20/20 vision was in 1950.
- You are a great-grandparent.
- You have more than 10 grandchildren
- You have more than 5 grandchildren
- Became a grandparent for the first time in the last 12 months
- You have a grandchild who was born this year.
- You have pictures of all your grandchildren in your pocket or purse right now.
- You are ready for a great conference!

## Ice-Breaker Activities (Cont.)

### Top 10 Best Things About Becoming A Grandparent

Everyone loves a good top ten list (Remember The David Letterman Show?) Here are the top ten things about becoming a grandparent!

(You can read this list and comment on them as you go along. For example, when you say “singing silly songs”—give an example of a silly song that grandparents like to sing with their grandkids, or one that your grandpa or grandma sang to you.)

Feel free to change any of these if you wish to do that or ask people to share something that they have discovered is great about becoming a grandparent.

- 10: Acting like a kid again and getting away with it
- 9: Singing silly songs
- 8: Having something to brag about
- 7: Smiling for no particular reason
- 6: Revisiting all your favorite animated movies
- 5: Having someone to tell your old jokes to
- 4: Starting a new toy collection
- 3: Having something to put on your refrigerator door
- 2: Getting spontaneous hugs
- 1: Discovering love that you never knew you had!