



We believe by first bringing women into small groups where they feel supported, they experience more joy in their marriage, jobs, and families. The women have greater self-confidence, and grow closer to God. Therefore, Well-Read Mom women are equipped to face the cultural challenges of this world.

"The night of our first meeting, I came home very excited after listening to the first audio. Yes! The idea that I would be a better wife and mother by taking time to read more struck me while at the same time calmed me, because I could see it was the truth. I instinctively knew that God had created me to learn and study; to be well read. And in doing so it would enrich our marriage and family life."

-WRM Member

Frequently Asked Questions

By Well-Read Mom Leaders

● Do women have to be biological mothers to participate?

Well-Read Mom understands motherhood in the broadest possible sense—the generative capacity of all women to bring life to the world. The Well-Read Mom name reflects our origin—as an answer to the question, "Isn't there a place after college where women can discuss the big questions of life?" We welcome women from all walks of life, regardless of whether or not they have biological children of their own.

● Why follow the theme and proposed order of books?

We have Well-Read Mom groups in every state and several countries. One of the most beautiful aspects of Well-Read Mom is that women worldwide are reading together the same book at the same time. Following a theme and the order of the books is unique to the Well-Read Mom method of reading books together. This nationwide conversation is possible when we stay together.

● Can we use our own discussion questions?

Yes, the discussion questions are a starting point for your group. If you have written your questions, by all means, feel free to use them. Our questions are written by a variety of women, so the style varies from month to month—some focus more on book analysis and others on personal reflection.

● Why do you ask members to commit to reading Well-Read Mom emails?

Communicating with members all over the country is difficult. Most women experience Well-Read Mom as their local group; however, the Well-Read Mom experience is also national! Our emails alert you to when resources are available, where to find a book that is in low stock, any programmatic changes that may be happening, announcements, special events, and more. We know you're busy; we try to limit the number of emails we send to our members.

● How can I grow my group if it is too small?

You can consider hosting an informational meeting and inviting neighbors, relatives, school parents, coaches, and friends. Another idea is to ask a friend to be your accountability partner for reading. We can also publicize your group on social media.

● **How do I close my group if it is getting too big?**

The group leader should log on to MY ACCOUNT and select "full" under group status. When a group is getting too big, sometimes the group splits in two. Other times, one leader will run two groups. Each group decides its capacity.

● **Does my group have to be open to the public?**

No, sometimes a group is listed as "full" due to the space where it meets or the group members' comfort level, which is just fine.

● **What if the women are too busy to read all of the books?**

The goal of Well-Read Mom is to read more, read well. We believe that even reading part of a good book is better than not reading. If the booklist seems daunting, choose a couple of books you'd like to read and go from there. Even though making time to read is a challenge, it is worthwhile!

● **The women don't seem committed. How can I increase group participation?**

When women register, we have found that they are more committed to attending the meetings. Our leaders tell us that they have more success when choosing the dates for the whole year in late summer. That way, women can save the date. It seems impossible to find a date that "works for everyone" month-by-month. There are very few evenings that women would have no other potential commitments, so we encourage the women to make this self-care time for personal growth and friendship a priority.

● **How do I manage someone who dominates the discussion?**

To redirect a woman who is talking too much, try a simple, "We'd love to hear more about that. Can you tell us more after the meeting? Or, "Can we hear from anyone else who hasn't had the chance to share yet?" Alternatively, passing an object that shows who has "the floor" can help curtail someone dominating the discussion.

● **It's awkward to ask group members to register. What should I do?**

As a leader, it can be a bit awkward to tell the women that they need to register. However, it's so important to us as a non-profit that women who benefit from this ministry financially support it. The home office can let the women know about the registration requirement if you prefer.

When women understand that Well-Read Mom is a non-profit funded by the membership dues of women who participate, it is easier to register. Many reading lists are available online, but Well-Read Mom is more than just a book list and method; It is an experience of beautiful encounters with reclaiming womanhood. Membership costs less than \$5 a month. Well-Read Mom is a 501c3 non-profit with business expenses, such as rent, utilities, legal fees, insurance, etc. Membership fees, grants, and donations all keep Well-Read Mom running.

To be clear, no woman is turned away due to an inability to pay. Thankfully, we have scholarships available. Having an accurate count of the women who participate is incredibly important as it helps us assess book availability and apply for grants to ensure Well-Read Mom's operation.

● **How can I ask women not to drop in and out of meetings?**

You can reiterate that to have the kind of deep conversation that Well-Read Mom promotes, you ask that women attend the whole meeting so that those relationships have time to develop.

● **How can I contribute commentary or blog posts to Well-Read Mom?**

We welcome your contributions to our blog. Submissions should focus on your experience of Well-Read Mom, literature, or how a particular book has influenced you. Please contact us at info@wellreadmom.com.

● **How do we best use the monthly audios?**

The audios are essential to understand why we selected the book, how it applies to the year's theme, and often provide literary information that helps enrich the reading. Using the audios also makes it easy for someone to step in and lead the group with virtually little preparation. By listening to the audio, Well-Read Mom will be "at its core" a similar experience for every woman who joins.

Each group will have its dynamics and flavor, but if someone were to join a group in Crosby, Minnesota, or Houston, Texas, her experience of Well-Read Mom would be essentially the same in its basic structure.

The Well-Read Mom experience is broader than participating in a local group. Your participation in Well-Read Mom is influencing culture. We have seen evidence of this all over the country in many ways.

By listening to the audios each month, we will be able to share the most crucial information with you via that route. On our end, we promise to be respectful of your time. We understand how fruitful your group discussions are. We hope you will find that listening to the audios each month becomes a source of uniting your group with women all over the world and that they might inspire you to explore a new component of the reading selection that you may have overlooked.

● **Can my group meet virtually?**

Our preference has always been for women to gather in person. However, meeting online can be a great blessing when this is not possible due to distance, illness, or some other factor. Contact us for more information.

We are sincerely grateful for all of the women joining us on this amazing journey. We appreciate our leaders and the unique role they have taken. We want to do our best to ensure that Well-Read Mom can help women read more and read well for a long time to come.

Please feel free to reach out to us at any time. We're happy to help!
Contact us at info@wellreadmom.com.