



LOW-TECH, HIGH-IMPACT

A Quick Guide to Small Groups





Summary

How to stay connected with your small group through deep, life-giving ways that are personal, meaningful and impactful.



Small Group Commitment #2
Cultivate Relationships



Two Minute Read



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I'll be the first to admit that I am not on the cutting edge of technology. If you come over to the Carlson household, don't ask for our Wi-Fi password, because we don't have internet. That's right. It's 2020 and we don't have internet or cable TV. No, we're not Amish... yet! (Ask me in a month...) We just live 2.1 miles too far in the country and don't have any options for internet. Welcome to the backroads of Danville! It's very sad.

Although I'm a non-tech person, I see the benefits of staying connected and virtually meeting with people through digital platforms like Zoom and Skype. These are amazing tools and a great way to utilize technology and fill the gap for social interaction. Yet, I also see these digital platforms as temporary solutions. Imagine when COVID-19 is long gone and people return to social gatherings. What will change?

The better question is, what can we start doing now that will create new habits and establish new rhythms to move us forward for years to come?

If there is a silver-lining in what's happening with social distancing, it's that people are craving human interaction. The way I see it, COVID-19 provides a timely opportunity to be a positive disruptor in the way we communicate.

Through technology, our culture has grown comfortable with texting, scrolling, liking, posting, streaming... okay, let's be honest, we've been practicing "social distancing" for a while. None of this is bad. It's just impersonal. While technology has contributed so many positive things to society, it lacks the human element and dulls relationships. Even "artificial intelligence" is still artificial. Sure, these tools are convenient, provide instant information and allow you to stay connected with more people than ever before and people all over the world. But it's not life-giving.

Like these words you are reading, most of our communication is fleeting.

You know what's not fleeting? A phone call for no reason other than to chat. What about a hand-written letter or card—you know, those rare things without spellcheck that cost 55 cents and we find them in the mailbox on holidays and birthdays? Would you rather open a card or an email? When was the last time you mailed someone a care package?

This is about changing the way we interact with one another through deep, life-giving ways that are personal, meaningful and impactful.



Theological Truth

The first thing we know about God, after His existence, is the fact that He spoke. We worship a God who speaks. As we are created in His image, let's speak words of encouragement and hope into these uncertain times. Let's stay connected and come around one another in ways that are personal, meaningful and impactful.



Ideas to Consider

If the Lord brings someone from your small group to mind, reach out and let them know you are thinking about them and that you want to stay connected.

Rather than texting, pick up your phone and call someone.

Rather than scrolling through social media, FaceTime someone just to say "hi".

Instead of watching that next show on Netflix, write a letter or make a card.



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