

HEBREWS 10:24-25

²⁴ And let us consider how to stir up (provoke) one another to love and good works, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.



THE FATHOMLESS ACHE

The fathomless ache we all experience is that of being alone – and that the God of the Bible has come in Jesus to heal the ache and recommission us for the work of creating beauty and goodness in the world through community.

WHY COMMUNITY MATTERS

Christian community is the Biblical prescription for the ailments of a hurting modern society and the catalyst for human flourishing. Your LifeGroup community is good armor against every enemy you face and the good soil for producing transformative growth and provoking others to love and good deeds.

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10 IDEAS FOR BUILDING A STRONG COMMUNITY

1. Relational Connection

Outreach Leaders: when you help someone make a relational connection in your LifeGroup, making them feel like there is at least one person who cares whether or not they show up, it makes all the difference.

Find the common ground.

2. Learning Connection

Teachers: teach to ENGAGE not just INFORM. You build a wise and proactive community by feeding people God's Word and making them hungry for more.

Make people hungry for more by asking good questions.

3. Serving Connection

Directors: make it your goal to involve people not just greet them. Think of ways you can provide opportunities for both guests and members to serve, to create a shared purpose that makes people feel like they matter to the mission, because they do!

Make it your goal to see 50-75% of your class serving.

4. Discipling Connection

Men's or Women's Directors: Discipleship is about calendar, not curriculum. Discipling doesn't happen in a book, or one hour a week in a coffee shop, it happens while you do life together.

Find opportunities in your schedule to invite others to join you.

5. Crisis Connection

Member Coordinators/Shepherd Team Leaders: when you reach out to someone who is sick, or has a loved one that has passed, or loses a job, or their marriage gets messy, and you take time to just be present, you are building the DNA of your LlfeGroup community.

It's not just what you say, it's your presence that matters.

6. Prayer Connection

Prayer Coordinators: look for opportunities to pray for your people.

You will be amazed at what you can learn about how to serve someone when you find out what their hurts and struggles are.

Start a class prayer list you can send to the class. When you ask how you can pray for someone, pray for them immediately.

7. Worship Connection

All leaders: Invite people to join you in worship on Sunday mornings or during our nights of prayer on Sunday nights. The next Sunday night worship is August 17th.

When we worship as a church family it becomes a refreshing, healing, calming, strengthening time that builds community.

8. Social Connection

Social Coordinators: Plan out progressive dinners for your class or game nights or movie nights. When you spend time together outside of class it builds a front porch community.

When is the last time you sat out on your front porch, waving at people who drive down your street, or talking with neighbors?

9. Problem-solving Connection

When problems come up and you run, you miss out on an incredible tool God has given us for community building.

When you focus on the solution, not the fault, you create a great tool for working together to build trust in your LifeGroup.

10. In Class Connection

Directors: Take 10 minutes in class once-a-month to do a fun ice breaker that allows your class the opportunity to get to know each other. Share a fun fact or a funny fact that most of your people don't know.

Make your class time the catalyst that ignites community building.



DIVISIONAL BREAKOUTS

A1: Atrium - Peyton Coker

A2: Rooms A101-A109 - Dietrich Blakes

A3: The Commons - Mark Matthews

A4: The Commons - Jonathan Adkins

A5: West Wing - Alan Moore

Open: Connection Room - Matt Mullins

Young Singles: Worship Entrance B - Peyton Coker

Single Adults: Sports & Fitness Center - Brandon McFarland



