



EVENT PLANNING TO BUILD COMMUNITY: Beyond Just “Socials”

- **WHY** should you do this?
- **WHO** are your people?
- **WHAT** is the point; **WHAT** can/should you do?
- **WHEN & HOW** to do it?



WHY?

- **Hebrews 13:16 (ESV)** *Do not neglect to **do good** and to **share** what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.*
- **Galatians 6:10 (NLT)** *Therefore, whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone—especially to those in the **family of faith**.*
- **1 Peter 4:9-10 (ESV)** *Show **hospitality** to one another without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to **serve one another**, as good stewards of God's varied grace.*



WHO?

Consider the dynamics of your LifeGroup:

*Personal/Professional Connections

*Life Stages *Age Range *Hobbies *Guests

*Logistical Range *PROSPECTS!



WHAT for...?

- Connections (lifelong/seasonal)
- “Stickier” than just Sunday am interactions
 - Opens doors to new members serving
- Opportunities for guest/neighbor/relative/prospect incorporation
 - Helps to see needs and service opportunities within



WHAT now...?

- COORDINATE with your Director & Teacher!
- Plan a semester/season/year (school or calendar) in advance so people can save the dates
- Have ****at least**** one annual, anticipated, organized gathering (Truth Christmas Exchange)
- Contact multiple members (*privately/bcc*) with plenty of prior notice for opportunities to host
- Check with your minister/admin for CHURCH CALENDAR CONFLICTS, whether on or off campus
- Piggyback off Serve Saturday—add a meal together before/after



WHAT now...? (Cont'd.)

- Casual/impromptu lunches after church at various local restaurants
- Potlucks (themed or not, Saturday brunch)
- Competition events (chili cookoff, salsa, cake sculpting, sandwiches)
- Use corporate/personal connections for interesting/unique gatherings (ex. Top Golf, lake houses, ticketed events)
- Dinners for 6/8/10



WHAT now...? (Cont'd.)

THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- *Consider budgets *Factor in costs for décor/supplies
- *Communicate thoroughly-use Evite/Text/Canva
- *No date will work for EVERYONE—that's not a realistic goal. Just make sure most leadership can come and set the date(s). People can choose from the options!



HOW??

Make it happen!

- No social coordinator?* If **YOU** think of it, speak with your director/teacher and make an easy-to-execute plan!
- No social coordinator?* Look for someone who is faithful, dedicated, creative, desiring community, FUN—ask them!
- In obedience to God's Word and for the love of His Church, gather with *your people* outside the walls!

