

Greetings small group leaders, co-leaders, hosts, apprentices, and leaders in training:

Welcome to week number two of doing small groups in a brand-new way.

As I said in the video we sent a few hours ago, “connection is king.” Depending on your small group’s needs and challenges, you may/may not be meeting. Either way, the most important thing you as the leader(s) can do is **stay connected**. Many people are worried, anxious, or fearful. The best antidote to these emotions is connecting with other people.

Below is a list of ways to stay connected:

1. Meet as a small group, as long as your meeting complies with CDC standards. [Click here](#) to connect to CDC website.
2. Send out a “let’s stay connected” email. Invite all of your group members to “reply all” with words of encouragement and need.
3. Use social media. As an example, you could start a Facebook group for your small group.
4. Start a phone chain. You call 1 person in your group, who in turn calls another person, who calls another person. That way, each person calls one other person in the group until everyone has been called.
5. Use cell phone conference call feature. That way you can ALL get on the phone together. [Click here](#) to learn how to do this.
6. Use video conferencing to connect visually:
 - a. Skype: an app and website which can connect up to 10 people.
 - b. Google Hangouts: an app that also works on Chrome web browser and can connect up to 10 people.
 - c. Lifesize or WhatsApp: phone apps with unlimited meeting duration and built-in screensharing.
 - d. Zoom app and website: 100 people can connect at a time, only able to chat for 45 minute intervals
 - e. **For further help on this, ask your children or grandchildren. They will know how to get you set up.**

Here are a few details to keep in mind this week:

1. Attached you’ll find the Small Group Questions and Leader’s Notes.
2. Until further notice, there will be no meetings of any kind that will take place on Shadow Mountain campus (this includes on-campus small groups and leadership trainings).
3. Be sure to stay connected to SMCC at the following links:
 - a. To watch the livestream of church services on our website, [click here](#)
 - b. To watch on Facebook, [click here](#)
4. If you would like to sign up for digital giving, go to [ShadowMountain.org](#) and click [give online](#).
5. Be sure to read any new emails that you get from Shadow Mountain.

Finally, we are proud of you and all you are doing to help SMCC small groups stay connected. You are needed, perhaps now more than ever. And, we believe in you and what Jesus is doing in and through your small group. No challenge is as powerful as connection.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me (Philippians 4:13).

In Him,

Pastor Dale, Bethany, and Melissa