

# ADULT & FAMILY MINISTRY RELAUNCH KIT

## Lessons Learned from the Quarantine

As we look to a season of relaunch for ministry to adults and families, it is important to have conversations surrounding the many positive things that we have learned during this crisis. This is by no means a comprehensive list, but an attempt to be the catalyst for conversations for you and the families of your church.

Lessons that we should not forget:

### 1. **Make sure the Bible is the foundation.**

It seems like an understood concept but during this crisis, the methods that have worked the best have been very basic Bible study and devotional ideas.

Idea: Find resources to help keep this focus at [bibleengagementproject.com](http://bibleengagementproject.com)

### 2. **Focus on family and community in online discipleship efforts**

People gravitate to online communities because they provide an opportunity to connect with people. Take advantage of online groups and empower leaders in your church to lead them.

Idea: Use a ministry tool like Faithlife or Church Community Builder.

### 3. **Manage expectations with families**

Provide as many resources and a large variety, but then also understand if everyone does not use everything. The online resources that we provide are a toolbox to use. Not every tool is useful for every task.

Idea: Evaluate the effectiveness of these resources with online analytic tools.

### 4. **Provide simple resources from the ministry “professionals”**

Your ministry leaders at the church, volunteer or paid, can be a tremendous asset to the families of your church. Allow the youth and kids leaders to have a voice into the adult and family ministry planning.

Idea: Have the Children's / Youth Pastor provide application questions for family devotions based upon the Sunday morning message. Print them in bulletin or post them online.

### 5. **Age-aligned is best**

God instituted the church and the family. We should equip both! During this crisis and based upon the reality of being forced together in our homes, we realized once again that parents and kids can learn the deep truths of Scripture together.

Idea: Connect with “Listen” and age-aligned curriculum from the AG at [bibleengagementproject.com](http://bibleengagementproject.com)

#### **6. Big Days at church should be Big Days at home**

Easter, Christmas, and other big days that we have traditionally focused on church activities, also provide great times for families to connect and grow.

Idea: The Center for Holy Land Studies have great resources to help explain the historical and Scriptural basis for so many holidays. [holylandstudies.org](http://holylandstudies.org)

#### **7. Different learning styles**

Many people that would be more extroverted thrive in a personal experience like a worship service in a church building, but others may be just as impacted in an online experience. Don't be afraid of embracing a method for the introverts.

Idea: Do both and utilize a variety of leaders that can help with areas that you may not be as strong in.

#### **8. Young adults embrace online learning and can help you lead**

The generational differences during this time have been evident. Even though all generations have been utilizing online experiences, the young adult / millennial generation are more adept and familiar with online experiences and would be great potential leaders of your future online ministry.

Idea: Find those that have those skills and passions and let them help you continue to be present online.

#### **9. Perfection is not required ... presence is.**

Do the best you can and learn from those ministries and people that have the most viewership. However, do not let that be intimidating and cause you not to start. The world of online content is filled with varying levels of production quality. Start where you are and improve gradually. Do not let the idea of perfection keep you from being online.

Idea: Find a neighboring church that is more advanced in their online presentation and grab a coffee with that leader. Let them give you some quick and easy first steps.

#### **10. Online does not take the place of in-person.**

Even the most introverted people during this crisis have expressed the desire to simply get back to church. During the online ministry platforms, make sure there is a mention and focus on the importance of physically being together. Online campuses / services are great complimentary resources.

Idea: Let the online ministry support and make mention of often the positives of being there in person.

