

# 10 WAYS TO ENGAGE MEN IN DISCIPLESHIP DURING COVID-19

- 1. Pray for your men by name.** This is one of the most important things you can ever do. Let's face it, we've all been guilty of being so busy with life that we fail to pray for the very men we say we are so concerned about. So, men's leader, if you find yourself having more time on your hands right now, why not devote some of it to praying by name for your men. Enlist Deacon, Elders and Small Group leaders to do the same.
- 2. Contact your men.** Use the phone, email or text - but contact them. Enlist the men on your leadership team to help. Ask how they are doing. Ask about their job situation. Find out what they might be fearful of. Share your concerns as well. Ask how you can pray for them and then do it. You'll be amazed at the impact that will make on a man. When a guy feels cared for by you, it opens future doors of ministry to them.
- 3. Motivate men's groups to continue meeting.** It doesn't have to be face to face. Use Zoom ([zoom.us](https://zoom.us)) or some other video conferencing service. Some of them have free options or are offering special deals right now. [Chapter 17 on "Fear"](#) in the *Man in the Mirror* book makes for a great discussion time. Send a link to a Man in the Mirror [Bible Study video](#) (they are free!) that men can watch in advance and then talk about. If nothing else, share how each other is doing, take requests and pray together.
- 4. Urge men to "buddy up" and keep in daily contact by text or phone.** If the habit can be started now, it just may carry over after the crisis. Consider starting a [The Christian Man Mentoring Experience](#) within your church.
- 5. Organize your men to help others.** They can use some of their down time to assist others in the church or community who are in need. Maybe a single mom or elderly person need repairs done around the house. A shut-in may need someone to pick up some groceries, etc.
- 6. Challenge your men to focus on the spiritual disciplines.** Men often complain that they are too busy to take the time for the Bible, pray or read a good Christian book. Now is a great time to practice those or other [disciplines](#).
- 7. Encourage your pastor.** Remember, if you're a men's leader, your pastor is one of the men too. He's got a unique set of concerns and worries related to church ministry in addition to taking care of his family. Send him a note. Text him your support. Give him a call. Encourage other men to do the same. A great resource to get men praying for their pastors is [pastorprayerteam.com](https://pastorprayerteam.com).
- 8. Take time to plan.** If you are like most other men's leaders, all too often you are trying to fly by the seat of your ministry pants. This is a great time to pray about the direction of your ministry to men and to plan a ministry calendar for when life returns to normal. If you need ideas or help, contact me.
- 9. Help men to be the leader of their family.** As men we are often too distracted or intimidated when we talk about leading our families. Yet, this is a great time to practice. Help them with some practical easy suggestions:
  - Spend time with the family playing a board game, telling stories, reading the kids a book. Don't let everyone vegetate in front of the TV or their phones.
  - Go for a family walk. The fresh air will do everyone good. Notice together the signs of spring. Point out the wonders of God's creation.
  - Teach the kids a life skill.
  - Do a project together like build a bird house, etc.
  - Have a family devotional time. Keep it simple. They don't have to teach a lesson or preach a sermon. Read a Bible story and ask some basic questions or get everyone's take on the passage. Lead in prayer or have everyone take turns praying sentence prayers.
- 10. Remind them to be a Christ-like husband.** Share with them ways to love their wives. If their spouses are cooped up all day with the kids, give her a break to do something she wants to do just for herself. He can pray with his wife for she has fears as well. Initiate a "date night" by ordering in Chinese or some other meal after the kids are in bed. Make it romantic with candles.