

Purpose of Street WhatsApp Groups

Below are some reasons explaining the rationale of street app

To stay connected in a time of isolation

- To care for each other (especially the vulnerable, and lonely)
 - Practically: offering to do a food shop, pick up medicine, post a letter etc.
 - Socially: staying in regular contact by phone, social media, a conference call
 - Spiritually: Offering to pray, encouragement, sending a scripture
- An opportunity to deepen relationships with neighbours
- To add value to people's lives
 - Bring peace hope, love, kindness and joy, goodness.
- To show the love of Jesus to our neighbours
- To possibly invite people to watch an online church service

Through WhatsApp we can stay connected and minister the love of God to those on our street.

Getting started: Steps to setting up a Street WhatsApp Group

1. Download the app and set up a WhatsApp group (see 'How to' guide in folder)
2. Send an Invitation. If you have their mobile numbers and they are on WhatsApp you can do this through the app. For those whose numbers you don't have why not send them an invite (see editable template in folder)
3. Get posting (If you are struggling for ideas we have put some ideas and suggestions together in the folder)

Use an Online Video conference

If you want to make it even more personable, or if you want to host a street quiz, games night, Karaoke you can use online video conference software to facilitate this. We recommend using Zoom and have included a how to set up guide in the folder.

Questions, and ideas: things we can post:

Light hearted:

- What has been the best thing about lockdown so far?
- Can anybody recommend any good films or series?
- What one thing are you most looking forward to doing when it is safe to go out again?
- Post Joke/ funny video of the day.
- If you could only have one three course meal what would you have?
- If you could jump in a time machine where would you most like to go?
- If you could have any super power what would you choose and why?

Practical

- I'm planning on going to get my food shop. Does anybody need anything picking up?
- Post latest developments from the government local authorities.
- Post guides/ links to help neighbours access benefits.
- Plan social events on Zoom: Kariokee, street quiz, bingo, articulate etc..

Deeper Issues

- How are you feeling?
- Where do you find Hope?
- Do you feel, anxious or fearful?
- Does anybody in the group pray? If so what are you praying for?
- What are the things that you are currently worrying about?
- Hi guys as part of my faith I believe in prayer and I just wanted to ask if there anything that I can be praying for you? Feel free to send me a private message if you'd rather not share on the group?