



30 Ways **TO STAY CONNECTED AND BUILD COMMUNITY WHILE SOCIAL DISTANCING**

BY CAESAR KALINOWSKI





30 Ways TO STAY CONNECTED AND BUILD COMMUNITY WHILE SOCIAL DISTANCING

BY CAESAR KALINOWSKI



Hey!

I sure hope and pray that you, and all of yours, are healthy and experiencing God's amazing grace today. What a crazy time of change and uncertainty this is.

But God is good! And he is at work glorifying himself through all of life.

And He does that primarily through us—his kids—as we continue on in the only mission Jesus gave us: Make disciples, filling the whole world with His glory.

The situation we find ourselves in today has given Christians an unprecedented opportunity to BE the Church. To look out for one another, grow in the Gospel and include those outside our family, church or community.

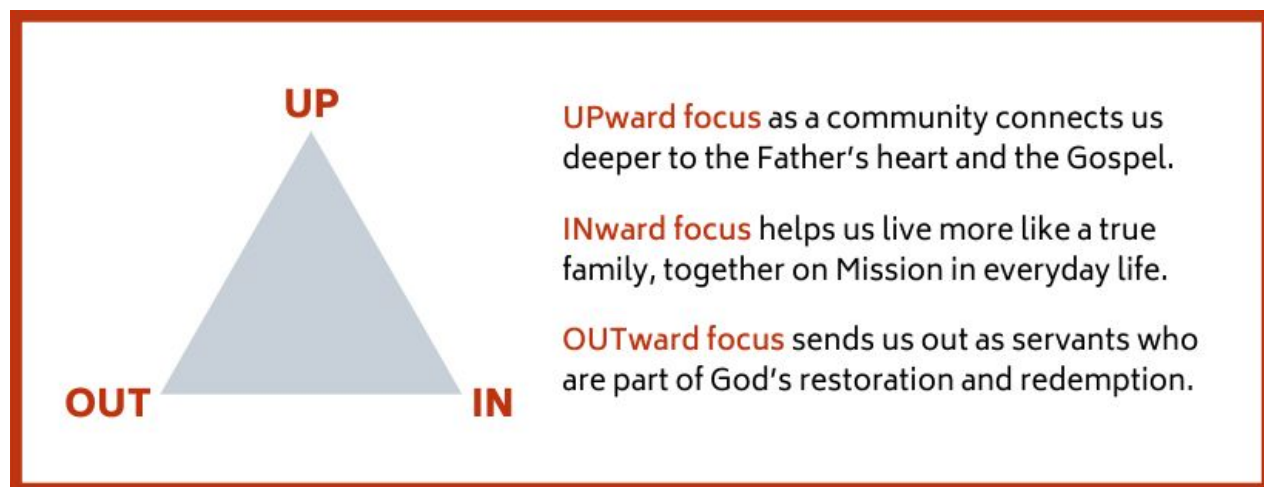
In this short eGuide, you'll find Jesus' way of living... every day, and during a crisis. He never changes. It's full of ideas that will stir your creativity and encourage you to press in, rather than "wait out the storm", in the weeks and months ahead.

Please let me know if I can serve you *in any way*. Here's my personal email address:
caesar@123lifeschool.com

Living as Jesus Lived During this Crisis... and Every Day!

Jesus lived life consistently connected to his Father, his disciples, and with those who were outside of his immediate circle in community. He never wavered.

He lived with an UPward focus on his Father, an INward focus with his community, and an OUTward focus toward others. We can have these same 3 priorities & focus.



During these times of “social distancing” we can still maintain these three priorities as we seek to actually *increase* our connection with others and build new relationships.

Below are 30+ Ideas and the technology you might need to get started... pick one or two from each of the 3 focus points (UP-IN-OUT), adjust them for your context, and get started today!

Tech to help facilitate some of these things and stay connected:

[Zoom.us](#) – A video conferencing site that works great for group interactions.

[Skype](#) – A great free online video and audio conferencing tool.

[Group FaceTime](#) – This requires everyone to be on an iPhone or Apple tablet.

[FreeConferenceCall.com](#) – Telephone conferencing, no frills and free!

[WhatsApp](#) – fast, simple, secure group messaging for free on any phone.

[Church Online Platform](#) – Live streaming, live prayer, live chat. The full works-free!

Additional Resources

[Lifeschool Podcast Episode](#) – Walks through the full UP-IN-OUT ideas + more info.

[CaesarKalinowski.com](#) – Find all kinds of resources for everyday discipleship.

[5 Big Leadership Mistakes](#) – Free video series to help grow your church, build unity and prepare for the future.

UPward Focus to keep connected to the Father and growing in the Gospel

- Extended family sized gatherings in your home... worship, study, prayer, communion, within current safe guidelines
- Online gatherings of your whole church or group
- Daily Devotionals online at a set time each day, perhaps Mon-Fri mornings
- Daily Prayer online at a set time each day
- Online Bible Study and discussions (video, email, text)
- Go thru [Gospel Primer](#) w/Community Day online together for discussion
- Neighborhood Prayer Walk, share needs you see with others in community
- Worship Nights in small groups in home (10 or less) or online together
- Outdoor prayer circle, spread out a little but close enough to hear each other

INward Focus to help you connect deeply as a family and community

- Normal meal, dinner party or happy hour together with everyone online
- Game Night over video, games like Charades, Pictionary, Scattergories
- High/Low/Buffalo - Share best/worst/craziest part of your day over video
- Check in on \$ needs in the community and BE good Family, meet needs!
- Go thru [Tangible Kingdom Primer](#) (8 weeks) with discussions online together
- Bless others in Word, Action or Gift - ie. Encouraging calls, send Amazon gift card, Run an errand for someone stuck inside
- Sabbath outdoors in small groups... on hike, beach, small picnic, keep a little extra distance between everyone
- What'sApp to stay in touch throughout day, prayer requests, normal daily funny stuff to feel more connected to what's going on daily in community
- Online men's group (Cigar & Theology) or Ladies Night together online
- Online Group Leader training and encouragement not to hide or die :-)
- Story time for kids on Zoom or Group Facetime
- Throw online birthday parties... don't skip them!
- Listen to the [Lifeschool Podcast](#) and brainstorm ideas for your own response

OUTward Focus to help reach out, connect & include others in meaningful ways

- [Letter to your neighbors](#) - post on FaceBook group, hand out door-to-door
- Invite People of Peace into any “IN” activities that are not overly “spiritual” or too “insider” for them to understand or enjoy
- Neighborhood Game Night charades, pictionary etc. in small group or online
- Go thru [Justice Primer](#) as a group (8 weeks) with discussions online together
- Story time for neighborhood kids (or your small group kids) online together
- Driveway Dance Party with everyone in their own driveway or in cul de sac
- Driveway Happy Hour or Fire Pit with everyone in their own driveway
- Driveway Movie Night on garage door, people can bring lawn chairs and set their own distance and bring their own snacks
- Keep ears open to financial needs in neighborhood, apartment building, local businesses. Spend money at any business still open, tip really well!
- Offer ‘safe-zone’ baby sitting so couples can have a stay at home “date night”
- Throw online birthday parties... check Facebook for upcoming birthdays in your neighborhood... have a cupcake and candles, sing “Happy Birthday” etc.

**See Sample Letter to Neighbors on the next page....*

CAN WE HELP?

Hi neighbor!

Well, we're in interesting times with this whole COVID-19 situation, with lots of anxiety and fear in our community about where it's all headed. It's hard to tell what the next days, weeks and months have in store for us, but whatever the case, we think it's a good time to push into being good neighbors!

While we don't have a whole lot stockpiled, we may have something we can share with you if you're in a pinch. **Just ask!** We'd also be happy to do a run to the store if you're finding it hard to get there yourself for whatever reason.

Anyway, if you do need something – or if you want to talk more about ways we can help each other, or for encouragement – **give us a call at xxx-xxx-xxxx**. (BTW: We're at _____ address _____.)

Know that we're praying for you, your family, and our neighborhood as we go through this together.

Blessings,

_____(name here)_____