

Making Connections and Growing Stronger Together

It isn't a secret that by some standards we are far more connected today than we once were. Through texting, emails, and Facebook, we are just a few clicks away from getting in touch with someone across the street or across the country. For this reason, you would think that relationships would be easier. We wouldn't have to worry about making connections with others as much as we once did.

While thought connectivity has greatly increased, sometimes pastors still struggle to connect and build meaningful relationships with one another. Technology can help the process. It has allowed us to experience a great number of things in ministry that wouldn't have been possible ten years ago; but technology only goes so far. Unless we make some meaningful face-to-face connections from time to time, we will find ourselves lonely and isolated. If those feelings are given time to fester, it's only a matter of time before they lead to serious issues and consequences not just for pastors, but for their families and churches.

Recognizing this problem, our LLCs (Leadership Learning Communities) have sought to foster environments that lead to connections and meaningful relationships among our pastoral leaders. In order to help with the process - thanks to your generosity - this year we were able to give small grants to each of our LLC groups to help fund some fun connecting activities, like having a special meal around the holidays.



On the surface that might not seem like much, but it's those special moments when we spend time together in fellowship that can mean a world of difference when moments of crisis and struggle inevitably come. For those moments lay the groundwork for relationships, and it's those connections that remind us that we can reach out to another friend in ministry to talk to and pray with when times are tough. Sometimes, using technology makes it possible to connect quickly at the very moment of need.



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