

LEADING A HYBRID LIFE GROUP

Hope Singapore Life Group Leader Resource

The pandemic has changed us and how we engage with our world. While we used to conduct mostly face-to-face meetings, in recent times virtual tools have been indispensable. While there are great value meetings in person, to increase our reach, connect with our flock, grow our communities, disciple our people, hybrid models are now essential.

What is a Hybrid Life Group?

A hybrid life group is a time where a life group programme is conducted with a group of in-person audience as well as a group of virtual audiences.

Opportunities of a Hybrid Life Group include:

- Increasing reach as people can attend the meeting together not limited by capacity
- Upholding the value of meeting together (physically and virtually)
- Discipleship opportunities as people can serve in roles

A Paradigm Shift

Change is the only constant in our world today and with the pandemic, there have been rounds of pivoting and values are constantly tested. Hybrid life groups are the future of how we can continue to build life group communities. Some might feel that hybrid groups encourage virtual attendance instead of physical attendance.

However, we have to stop our mindset of physical vs virtual. Instead, let's ask ourselves: how will hybrid LG enhance opportunities for relationships and increase participation? Is it better for someone to turn up virtually or is it better for someone to miss LG totally?

Hebrews 10:24-25

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Technology does not have to replace our face-to-face connections. Use technology to 'spur one another on toward love and good deeds', 'encourage one another' and 'to meet regularly'.



Tips on Leading a Hybrid LG

The first step to an engaging hybrid LG is the technical setup. A good technical set up will ensure a seamless LG experience.

1. Getting Started with Zoom

Tips For Presenters

- The presenter should ideally be the one hosting the Zoom Meeting and sharing the presentation materials.
- Start screenshare in Zoom when ready. Presenter should be connected to the projector and to the room audio, if applicable.
- The presenter does not necessarily need to be the one presenting for the meeting – they just need to manage and share the meeting content to the physical and online attendees.

Setup

- Connect to Projector/TV and audio
 - If you need to share audio or video from your computer, make sure to share computer sound during screen share and consider optimising for video.
- Sound Settings on Zoom
 - [Click here](#) for sound setting and tips on sound settings when leading worship.

Set rules for LG

- Encourage the physical attendees to refrain from chatting among themselves for a prolonged period, as this will be distracting for those online and vice versa.
- Encourage those tuning online to turn on their cameras.
- Always ensure that online audience are muted.
- Make slides and content available for online audience.

Inclusion

- Treat both groups equally. If asking questions, you can start asking online participants first.
- Get online participants to lead some parts of the meeting.

Prepare for tech problems

- Ensure there is a way to communicate when there is something wrong. (e.g. ask the online participants to interrupt the meeting if there is issue from audio)
- Ensure a volunteer who is tech savvy on-site to troubleshoot.

Have multiple hosts

- One host for online and one host for physical.



2. Sample Hybrid Life Group Programme

This programme is for life group with more than 5 pax and the life group is conducted in a hybrid format with life group members in a few locations.

For example, Group A is gathering in Home A and Group B is gathering in Home B. Both groups will be sharing the same programme flow with each part of the programme led by either Group A or B.

Technical Requirement: Laptop connected to Zoom link, telecasted on to the TV screen.

Warm Up - 30 mins before programme

All hosts can prepare food/ desserts/ snacks for those gathering on site.

Ensure that laptop can properly connect to internet and audio can be played.

Test that the visual and sound is working.

Welcome - 5mins

Chairperson from Group A will welcome everyone.

E.g. Hi everyone, welcome to this week's LG! Today we are having a hybrid programme so you can see us gathering 2 groups of 5 in 2 homes. It is a privilege to be able to meet and spend time face to face. Let's take the next few seconds to welcome those among you with a hi-five, fist bump or a hug.

Icebreaker - 10mins

Someone from Group A leads a game that can be played together across both groups. The game is usually an online platform so that all participants can log on and play.

Tip: Have a small prize that can be mailed/delivered to the winner so as to increase people's participation.

Here is a list of games for hybrid LG:

1. [Kahoot](#)

Kahoot! is a game-based learning platform that makes it easy to create, share and play learning games or trivia quizzes in minutes.

2. [Virtual Bingo](#)

Create your own game via a link and host up to 30 players. Play your bingo card online by tapping the numbers/words as they are called.

3. Scavenger Hunt

Split your team up into groups and give them a list of things to find around them. The first team to check off every item on the scavenger hunt list, wins!



4. [Scattergories](#)

Send each person a link to the game. The rules are simple: there is one letter and five categories (e.g. "school supplies", "book titles", and "girls names"). You have 60 seconds to come up with a word that fits in each category and starts with the chosen letter. The more unique your answer is compared to your friends' answers, the more points you get.

5. [Charades](#)

Split your group into two teams and use the game link to choose your words and phrases. The person who's acting out the charade uses the Zoom "spotlight" feature, and their team has one minute to figure out the phrase.

Praise and Worship- 15mins

Someone from Group B leads P&W.

Play P&W Video.

Unmute only when praying.

Send lyrics in advance to both groups.

You can also use [these songs](#) recommended by our worship team.

Recap Sermon Points

Someone from Group B recaps last weekend's sermon.

Select some points to discuss [here](#).

Discussion

Assign a leader from Group A and B respectively to lead this in their groups.

Closing & Announcements

Discussion leader will continue to lead this segment for closing and announcements.

