

10 Steps to Getting People Connected

By Shirley Giles Davis

1. **Make it a priority to get to know people.** Listen and learn about them. Who are they, why are they at your church, what do they love? Connect them first to their interests, not first to your needs.
2. **Find a place for NEW people in ministry,** especially new members and visitors—those who are “eagerly leaning forward.” Create ways to gather their name and interest information and then contact them and connect them as soon as possible.
3. **Create a spiritual gifts discovery process** at your church. Use the [God, Gifts, You, workbook](#) and free online assessments and teaching videos to help people discover their call, purpose, gifts, and where to serve.
4. **Create a Hotlist of Ministry Opportunities** and ask each ministry area to provide “job listings.” Encourage all ministries to always be thinking of where their needs are and what kind of person could help fill those gaps. Make sure these needs are on the Hotlist...and, when someone responds with interest, follow up with them a.s.a.p.
5. **Create a Hotlist of Fellowship/Learning Opportunities** to make it easier for people to find places of fellowship, growth, and connection at your church (small groups, classes, mentoring, etc.).
6. **Create and make use of a database.** Ask people to provide information about their ministry interests, talents, gifts, etc. and create a church-wide database that can be used to find the right person for the right job!
7. **Communicate needs and areas for people to serve.** Use all methods of communication, knowing that repetition helps. Never sound desperate, and always let people know the benefits of getting involved. Use social media, your church’s website, your church’s phone app, bulletins, pulpit announcements, emails, texts, flyers, and face-to-face and phone communication.
8. **Connect in meaningful ways with the community.** Add information about local nonprofit agencies with current needs to your Hotlist of Ministry Opportunities. Create ongoing relationships with these agencies.
9. **Provide one or more annual All-Church Days of Service**—a great way to build community amongst your congregation and friends as well as to serve in tangible ways where there are needs. Start first with those outside agencies and organizations with whom you have a relationship.
10. **Invite people to get involved based on giftedness and passion for ministry.** Make sure that what you ask them to do is not only a “fit” but is also meaningful and appreciated by you.

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A Six Week Study



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