

AUSTRALIAN INTERGENERATIONAL ROUNDTABLE

Resource Paper #3 | **Fostering Intergenerational Connection**

The Australian Intergenerational Roundtable (AIR) is a community of communities networking together in order to collaboratively champion the sustainable growth, development and support of intergenerational ministry across Australia.

This resource paper is one of a series that has emerged from the collective experience of the AIR participants. It is being offered to the wider community of all those who share the dream of a more intergenerational church – a church comprised of lifelong followers of Jesus, of all ages, caring, praying, celebrating, learning and serving faithfully together.

23 EASY THINGS YOU CAN TRY TO ENCOURAGE INTERGENERATIONAL CONNECTION

1. Organise regular meals as a church family.
2. Think about what skill you could pass on to someone else, pray that God shows you who that person could be.
3. Think about someone/people/families/households comprising different generations who you could invite into your home for a meal.
4. Have older people connect with young people with something they are both passionate about eg. music, wood work, sport.
5. Say hello to your next door neighbour.
6. Learn and use the names of the children in your community.
7. Serve together as a family, household or intentionally intergenerational team.
8. Think about the last time you intentionally spent significant time interacting with another generation
9. Think about ways to serve in your local schools.
10. Investigate ways you could serve in your local nursing home or other aged-care setting.
11. Organise an Adopt a Grandparent process
12. More intentionally involve all ages in activities that are already happening
13. Consider four people in your daily life from a different generation you can bless.
14. Plan specific events within your community that intentionally and meaningfully include more than one generation.
15. Equip adults for conversations with children/young people and children/young people for conversations with adults.
16. Invite the older generations to share their gifts in different ministries within the church.
17. Proactively connect people from different generations who share an interest or skill.
18. If you're a grandparent – check out this link to find ideas to connect with your grandchildren.
19. Coffee Connect – young and old linked to share a conversation over morning tea/coffee/cordial.
20. Multi-generational Small (or Life) Groups.
21. Tweak the ministries you already have and think about how you can include other generations appropriately.
22. Ask the questions of people – What are you passionate about, what skills are you willing to share with others? Find ways to connect people through that.
23. Find ways to help those in need – gardening, cleaning, meals etc. Engage all generations in providing these acts of Service.
24. Add your own...