



Men's NetWork ~ How to Use the Men's NetWork Resources to Enrich Your Current Men's Ministry

Purpose: (To help congregations revitalize their existing men's ministry)

Is your men's ministry group running a little sluggish? Though pleased with the consistent attendance of the guys in your ranks, are you finding it tough bringing in new individuals to your group? Don't feel bad; it's difficult for many men's ministry groups to get new guys on board—especially younger men who are saddled with work, family, and other pressing responsibilities.

That being said, the reality is those guys are some of the very people that *most need* your support, words of wisdom, and Christian direction. This resource guide will help you integrate these guys into your men's ministry, while energizing your group in the process, making it something you can all be proud of.

Let's take a look at some of the things the **Men's NetWork** has to offer you.

Men's NetWork Resources:

Bible Studies:

These award-winning Bible studies cover a variety of topics in fresh and innovative ways. Some treatments are light and a bit funny; others run pretty deep. All of them are put together with guys in mind. We think you'll find them interesting, stimulating and, certainly, different than most video Bible studies you've seen before. A number of these have an intentional appeal to the interests and concerns of guys near the fringe when it comes to church involvement. They want to get involved, but frequently feel the church lacks relevance. The last thing they want to do is step into something they'll have to withdraw from later. Our video-based Bible studies are produced to engage and inform. Our discussion guides will get your group thinking, talking, and growing together in Jesus Christ.

How-To Instruction Guides:

These helpful guides provide important info to help leaders and their groups do any number of things from organizing a golf or fishing tournament to leading a Bible study. With step-by-step instructions, you'll get details on how to pre-plan an activity and how to evaluate what you've done when it's finished. And since we don't have a "corner on the market," we welcome all topic suggestions or stabs at writing one for us.

U.S. and International Impact Events

Few things energize guys like putting some muscle into doing something positive in the lives of others. A quick look outside our comfort zone quickly tells us there's more than enough need to go around. That's why we launched the **Men's NetWork** WORK DAY a few years ago. It gives guys a chance to do something hands-on and helpful in their neighborhoods and communities. At the international level, you or your group can work at an orphanage, assist in some construction projects, help teach English, or assist mobile



medical clinics in dispensing health care—all in different places around the globe. There are other projects too. If it's work in another country you want, we have plenty of opportunities. Our International Impact section offers a wide variety of life-changing activities your men can apply their skills at.

Local/Regional Calendar:

Here's a cyber-bulletin board where you can post the location, dates, times, topics, activities, contact info, and other relevant news about that new men's ministry group you and your church buddies have just formed. To get your data delivered to users nationwide, just send us your scoop and we'll post it on the website. It's also the place to see what's going on with other groups nearby in your state or region. It's also a great way to mine ideas if your group is looking for something new too.

Braggin' Rights:

Here's where your names and mugs go up in lights! Send us a summary of your event and the pictures to prove it, and we'll post them prominently for the world to see. You can brag about the great things your men have done, and encourage other groups to do better—if they can, that is. Chances are you just might find some fresh faces—either from inside or outside your church—who are interested in getting involved and joining the fun.

The Baloney Shop:

This little out-of-the-way nook is where Rev. Ken Klaus, Speaker Emeritus of **The Lutheran Hour**, applies his theological training and deft sense of humor to discuss some of the more oddball and out-there items that put the burr under his saddle when it comes to Christianity and the world at large. For a diversion, show these short clips and see if the guys in your group have seen the same baloney—or worse. We also encourage you to submit your own questions on the boloney you see and hear.

“Stuff They Didn't Teach Me in Sunday School”

Here you'll find Bruce Wurdeman, former executive director of Lutheran Hour Ministries, delivering 184 video vignettes as he offers his observations and insight on stories you know well from Sunday school and a few you might not know at all. Written and presented to give the viewer some backstory and perspective that might not emerge in a typical Sunday school lesson, these popular video clips will get you thinking about and digging into Scripture to learn more.

Men's NetWork E-newsletter

This weekly info piece lets you know what's going on and what's up and coming. New men's groups joining, the latest, award-winning Bible studies, regional outreach events taking place, **Project Connect** booklets, contests, and more, it's all here to keep you in the loop.

Man Stuff:



This is the **MNW** blog. Here, each week, we post a blog, inviting your comments in response. You can write us with any questions, comments, or concerns you might have about your men's ministry group start-up. We might even have a suggestion or two that could make your effort easier.

Find a Men's NetWork Group near You:

This page is for men to find local men's groups they can join and for you to publicize your group! Men interested in participating in a men's ministry won't find you if you're not there to be found. Drawing men into your group means new energy, excitement and ideas! Get on board and promote your group!

Thought of the Day Archives:

These little gems give you something to think about when you're staring out the window at work or surfing our website at your local coffee shop. When you want to dazzle somebody with your command of pithy witticisms, look no further. These bite-sized morsels can be surprisingly filling. Check out a few, when you get a chance.

Overview/Summary: *(Be sure to send word to the **Men's NetWork** sharing any successes or commentary using these tools and resources in your men's ministry. Please include suggestions for improving this "How To" and return them to us mensnetwork@lhm.org.)*