

# VIRTUAL D NOW

BY YM360

GATHERINGS WITH OUR STUDENTS HAVE DISAPPEARED. WE WANT YOU TO BE EQUIPPED TO CONTINUE TO MAKE AN IMPACT IN THE LIVES OF YOUR STUDENTS, EVEN IF YOU CAN'T BE IN THE ROOM WITH THEM.

*LET US TAKE THE GUESSWORK OUT OF HOW TO PULL OFF A VIRTUAL EVENT.*

**1** CHOOSE A YM360 EVENT CURRICULUM STUDY

**2** PLAN USING THE VIRTUAL D NOW GUIDEBOOK

**3** CREATE AN AMAZING VIRTUAL EVENT!

**CHOOSE A STUDY  
AND HOST A VIRTUAL  
D NOW TODAY!**

# EVENT SCHEDULE

## DAY 1

- \_\_\_\_\_ pm: Large Group Session 1 LOG INTO GROUP-WIDE ZOOM
- \_\_\_\_\_ pm: Small Group Session 1 LOG INTO SMALL GROUP SPECIFIC ZOOM, OR PARENTS LEAD INDIVIDUALLY WITH THEIR STUDENT(S)
- \_\_\_\_\_ pm: Personal Devotion Time

## DAY 2

- \_\_\_\_\_ am: Personal Devotion Time
- \_\_\_\_\_ am: Large Group Session 2 LOG INTO GROUP-WIDE ZOOM
- \_\_\_\_\_ am: Small Group Session 2 LOG INTO SMALL GROUP SPECIFIC ZOOM, OR PARENTS LEAD INDIVIDUALLY WITH THEIR STUDENT(S)
- \_\_\_\_\_ pm: Personal Devotion Time
- \_\_\_\_\_ pm: Group Fun Time/Free Time SEE "GROUP GAME IDEAS WHILE SOCIAL DISTANCING" DOC FOR IDEAS
- \_\_\_\_\_ pm: Large Group Session 3 LOG INTO GROUP-WIDE ZOOM
- \_\_\_\_\_ pm: Small Group Session 3 LOG INTO SMALL GROUP SPECIFIC ZOOM, OR PARENTS LEAD INDIVIDUALLY WITH THEIR STUDENT(S)
- \_\_\_\_\_ pm: Late Night Fun! CHOOSE A HIGH ENERGY GAME/CONTEST

## DAY 3

- \_\_\_\_\_ am: Personal Devotion Time
- \_\_\_\_\_ am: Large Group Session 4 LOG INTO GROUP-WIDE ZOOM
- \_\_\_\_\_ am: Small Group Session 4 LOG INTO SMALL GROUP SPECIFIC ZOOM, OR PARENTS LEAD INDIVIDUALLY WITH THEIR STUDENT(S)

# ADDITIONAL THINGS *TO CONSIDER:*

## **HEARING FROM STUDENTS DURING VIRTUAL DNOW**

A great way to hear from students in a remote setting is to offer a “text-in” service allowing students to send in questions that will be answered by the Youth Minister (or a panel...sitting at least 6 ft apart) during a Zoom session/pre-recorded/IGTV video

## **HOW TO DISTRIBUTE STUDENT RESOURCES?**

Consider a pickup option at the church that allows students and parents to pick up their resources safely. Section off each students’ resources into an individual bag/box and allow up to 72 hours from assembly of items to the first available time to pick up. Make sure students and parents are only coming into contact with their own items at time of pickup.

In addition to their student resources, include a packet of resources intended for parents. Give them the schedule, how to use Zoom (or whatever service you choose to use), and any information that would be beneficial for parents to know as their student(s) are experiencing DNow at home.

## **DON'T BE LIMITED TO THE WEEKEND!**

This is a strange time when students are home during the week and looking for ways to stay connected. Consider hosting DNow during the week!

# MOVING SMALL GROUPS TO ZOOM:

Small Groups via Zoom is going to be a lot more normal and feel a lot more intuitive to students than it might to you. Don't let the weirdness you feel about it make you feel like they are all thinking it's weird too. **Just embrace it!**

The maximum amount of time you have for an online meeting is 40 minutes if you are *using a free account*. Here are 3 Ways to use your time in a Zoom Small Group:

CONNECTION - Take a few minutes to connect and check-in

SMALL GROUP LESSON - Lead your students through the provided small group lesson plan

PRAYER - Close out by praying together

## HELPFUL TIPS:

### HELP! EVERYBODY IS TALKING OVER EACH OTHER!

Talking over one another in an online meeting with students is a reality you will need to learn to navigate. Just like it's pretty hard to get students not to do this in real life, it's probably even a bigger challenge in an online meeting. You can start by teaching students to mute until prompted or ask them to click the "Raise Hand" button.

If students are experiencing frustration with the format, they will be less likely to jump into the meeting next time. Own the "room" that you are leading and set the expectations for how the conversation is going to work. In a kind and engaging way!

### PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

If you aren't used to the Zoom format, then consider hosting a meeting with a small group of people before you open it up to larger groups of students.

### CREATING A SAFE PLACE IS STILL POSSIBLE

A few simple reminders about keeping your online group meeting a safe place:

- Try to make sure there are at least two adults in each meeting
- Enable the waiting room setting so that students can't enter the room until the "host" opens it
- Disable private chatting within group members
- Turn off the annotate capabilities – students can draw pictures on your screen, and middle-schoolers are clever
- Disable the screen sharing option if you will not need to show students anything on your screen, i.e., you aren't playing a video or showing them a PowerPoint or image
- If you have to kick someone out, address it with leadership

# ZOOM TIPS & INSTRUCTION GUIDE

## SIGN UP



Go to [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us)

**FREE!**

Enter email and click "sign up, it's free"

Confirm email



Click confirmation link in the email account you provided to sign-up

FIRST NAME

Input First Name

LAST NAME

Input Last Name

PASSWORD

Provide a Password

\*\*\*\*\*

Confirm Password



Click "Continue"



Click "I am not a robot"

Click "Skip this step"



Record "your personal meeting url"



Click "Go to My Account"

## SET UP A MEETING



At very top banner, click on "Host A Meeting"



Click on "With Video On"



Click on "Invite"



Click "Copy URL"



Send URL Link to group



EMAIL



MESSAGING



GROUPME  
OR OTHER  
MESSAGING  
APPS

# HOW TO USE ZOOM AS A PARTICIPANT



## FROM YOUR COMPUTER

- When you receive the zoom meeting invite, click on link and follow instructions
- You can join as a guest or you can sign-up for an account.
- It is best to go ahead and download the browser app
- After downloading the app, choose "Open Zoom.us" when prompted



## FROM YOUR IPHONE OR IPAD

- When you receive the zoom meeting invite, click on link and follow instructions
- Download the Zoom app
- Either join as a guest or sign-up for an account



## MEETING TIPS

- Computers work better than an iPad or phone.
- To help eliminate background noise, it is best to mute your audio during your meeting unless you are the one speaking.
- Earbuds/headphones usually help if there are audio issues.
- Lighting is important! Make sure you are not in the dark/shadow and that a bright light is not immediately behind you.
- Experiment with different camera/computer positions in the room for optimum quality.
- Check your internet connection prior to joining the meeting. A weak connection will not support a video call.

# GROUP ACTIVITY *IDEAS*

## **Students send in submissions and votes are tallied on social media (participating students can earn points for their small group/age group towards a grand prize)**

- Costume contest from items found in your home - give prizes for different categories: best overall, most creative, funniest, etc.
- Lip Sync Battle – consider providing a list of approved songs
- Art Contest – draw a picture, build a statue/sculpture, paint, make a video/skit, poetry: think “virtual talent show”
- Create your own social media challenge – it could be anything! Post your best fort, sidewalk chalk drawings... be creative!

## **Scratch the missions itch**

- Record videos for nursing homes/hospitals and make available on Facebook. Share the link with nurses/caretakers at your local healthcare facilities.
- Collect a list of needs from the elderly community in your church and divvy out the jobs – grocery shopping, yard work, etc. (all jobs that can be done while social distancing)
- Create a prayer chain within your group – ask each student (or groups of students, i.e. 9th grade guys/guys) to pray for specific needs in your church, community, or world.

## **Physical Activity (participating students can earn points for their small group/age group towards a grand prize)**

- City-wide 5K experience – each student runs one in their own neighborhood/area
- Dunk/Free throw contest
- Push-up/Sit-up contest

## **Activities to be done in real time as a group**

- Online games played via zoom – check out G4YM.com
- Photo Scavenger Hunt – Set a time to begin and send out the list at that time. First to send a pic of all items wins!
- Escape Room Experience at home – Create a package of puzzles/clues and first to send in the correct answer wins! (there are tons of guides for building your own escape room experience online)