

CONNECT PLAYBOOK



**WE EXIST TO BRING THE AWESOME LIFE OF CHRIST TO PEOPLE IN A
LOST AND BROKEN WORLD**

CONNECT PLAYBOOK

This Connect Playbook captures who we are, why Connect exists, and how we create spaces where people can belong, grow, and experience Jesus together. It is designed to equip and encourage Connect leaders as we live out the belief that nobody should have to do life alone.

Flatirons Mission: Flatirons exist to bring the awesome life of Christ to people in a lost and broken world.

CONNECT DNA

Mission: (Why we exist)

Connect exists to create an authentic community where we grow in our faith and live a life on mission.

Vision: (Where we are going)

Connect is a place where people find belonging, build authentic relationships, and grow in their faith.

Invitation:

We believe that faith was never meant to be lived out alone and Connect creates a space where people can find their people, build meaningful relationships, and take their next step toward Jesus.

Whether someone is exploring faith, looking to grow deeper, or simply longing for a place to belong, Connect is a space where they can ask questions, study God's Word, pray together, be encouraged, and be challenged. It's a place where people can experience the kind of community we see in Acts 2—sharing life together, gathering around the table, caring for one another, and growing spiritually.

At the heart of Connect is an intentional investment. It's about creating a space where people are fully known, supported, and encouraged to develop spiritual rhythms that help them become more like Jesus. Through authentic relationships and biblical community, we want people to grow in their faith, live on mission, and see the fruit of God's work in their lives and in the lives of those around them.

WHAT IS CONNECT? TALKING POINTS

Connect exists because we believe nobody should have to do life alone. We were created for community, and faith grows deeper when we have people walking alongside us.

Connect helps people move from attending Flatirons to belonging at Flatirons. Around tables, people can come as they are, find their people, build authentic relationships, and take meaningful steps toward Jesus together. Our hope is to make a big church feel small.

Connect creates space for real life and real growth. Through Scripture, prayer, honest conversations, and intentional investment, people are known, supported, challenged, and transformed.

Connect is more than a group—it's doing life together. We create an Acts 2 kind of community where people gather, share life, encourage one another, and grow together.

Connect helps people live on mission. As we become more like Jesus, we discover how God is working in and through our lives to impact the people and places around us.

MISSION ALIGNMENT (BIG 3)

Know God
Love Others
Impact the World

ROLES IN THE ROOM

Lead Host carries the vision and culture of Connect at the campus level by supporting Connect Table Leaders and creating an environment where an authentic community can grow. They serve as the primary point of connection for leaders, helping equip, encourage, and support them as they lead others toward meaningful relationships and spiritual growth. Lead Hosts are led by the Campus Discipleship Pastor/Director and partner with them to carry the vision, culture, and direction of Connect within their campus community.

Responsibilities & Expectations:

- Serve as the primary contact and support for Connect Table Leaders.
- Help oversee the Connect experience at the campus level, ensuring leaders feel equipped, encouraged, and connected.
- Provide clear and timely communication to Table Leaders and the broader Connect community.
- Help coordinate weekly flow, logistics, and leader needs.
- Execute intentional and authentic stage moments with energy and aligned theology with Flatirons Church.
- Troubleshoot questions or challenges that arise and help find solutions.
- Partner with Connect staff by sharing feedback, celebrating wins, and communicating needs from leaders and groups.
- To be a vision carrier of unreasonable hospitality. To help cultivate a culture where people feel welcomed, known, and reminded that nobody should have to do life alone. And to hold a posture of, "we've been expecting you."

Table Leader creates a welcoming, Christ-centered space where people can be known, encouraged, and challenged as they grow in their relationship with Jesus. They help foster authentic community, guide meaningful conversations, and walk alongside people as they take their next step of faith.

As a Table Leader, you are not expected to change lives—that is God's work. This is NOT about you. Your role is to faithfully create an environment where transformation can happen. You are called to love people well, point people toward Jesus, create a safe place to grow, help people take their next step, and trust God with the results.

Table Leaders don't have to have all the answers or fix every situation. Your role is to listen, pray, encourage, and point people toward Jesus while creating space for God to work through community.

As a Table Leader, you are called to:

- Love people well.
- Point people toward Jesus.
- Create a safe place to grow.
- Help people take their next step.
- Trust God with the results.
- To identify new leaders.

Core Commitments

- Get Honest— Create space for authenticity and vulnerability.
- Engage Fully— Be present and invest in the lives of those around you.
- Be Consistent— Build trust through reliability and show up.
- Protect Confidentiality— Honor the stories and trust shared within your group.
- Rely on Scripture— Keep God's Word at the center of conversations and growth.

Leadership Posture

- Pray Continuously— Depend on God and invite Him into your leadership.
- Lead by the Spirit, Not Your Own Strength— Trust God to bring transformation.
- Teach From Overflow— Lead from your own walk with Jesus.
- Stay Flexible & Attentive— Follow where God is leading your group.

Responsibilities & Expectations

Before Connect

- Pray for your group and prepare your heart to lead.
- Review content and discussion questions.
- Create a welcoming space.
- Attend the Leader Huddle.
- Communicate reminders and details.

During Connect

- Create a safe and welcoming environment.
- Guide conversation and encourage authentic engagement.
- Help people feel seen, known, and valued.
- Pay attention to group dynamics and care for the needs of those present.

After Connect

- Follow up and encourage group members.
- Continue praying for your group.
- Build connections beyond the weekly gathering.
- Communicate care needs with your Lead Host.

Table Leaders are not counselors. They are people who create space for others to belong, be known, and take their next step toward Jesus. Trust God with the transformation—your role is to faithfully show up, love people well, and create room for Him to work.

Connect Participant is someone who chooses to step into community, build meaningful relationships, and take their next step toward Jesus. By showing up, engaging honestly, and being present with others, participants help create a space where people can belong, be known, and grow together.

Core Commitments

Show Up— Commit to being present and making community a priority.

Be Honest— Come as you are and engage authentically with others.

Engage Fully— Participate in conversations and invest in relationships.

Encourage Others— Support and walk alongside the people in your group.

Take Your Next Step— Stay open to how God is growing and leading you.

Responsibilities & Expectations

- Commit to attending and engage in your Connect group.
 - Participate in conversations and share authentically.
 - Respect and care for the people in your group.
 - Encourage others and help create a welcoming environment.
 - Stay open to growth and taking your next step with Jesus.
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Leadership Flow:

Attendee (*Community, prayer, & connection*) --> **Table Leader** (*Support, care, & connection*) --> **Host Lead** (*Encouragement, updates, & partnership*) --> **Discipleship Staff** (*Vision, alignment, & support*)

PREPARING THE SPACE

The environment we create matters. Before anyone says a word, space communicates something about who we are and what people can expect. As Connect leaders, we have the opportunity to create spaces where people feel welcomed, known, and comfortable showing up exactly where they are.

THE CONNECT RHYTHM

Connect happens in two semesters throughout the year:

- Spring Semester: February–April
- Fall Semester: September–November

Each campus and group has the freedom to bring its own personality and uniqueness while staying connected to the heart, vision, and purpose of Connect.

A typical Connect gathering is designed to create space for:

- Connection & Community — Time to welcome people and build relationships.
- Teaching — Space to engage with biblical truth and practical application.
- Table Conversation — Opportunity to be known, ask questions, and grow together.
- Prayer & Next Steps — Time to reflect, encourage one another, and invite God into what comes next.

Think of Connect as 60% community and 40% content. The discussion guide provides direction, but the relationships built around the table are where life change often happens.

THE CONNECT RHYTHM

The Room

A welcoming space helps people feel comfortable walking in and staying awhile. Consider how the room feels when someone arrives for the first time—warm, inviting, and ready for connection. Round tables with groups of 6–10 people help create space for conversation and community.

The Leader Huddle

Before Connect begins, leaders gather to reconnect with the heart of Connect and be led by the Lead Host to encourage one another, share updates, and create space as a team to share and pray over the people God is bringing through the doors.

The Welcome Experience: "We have been waiting for you"

Every interaction matters. From check-in to a friendly greeting, we want people to know what they are expected and valued.

- iPad check-in system
- Appropriate Signage
- Name tags to help create connection
- Create a welcoming first impression by having people ready to greet, guide, and help guests feel seen, known, and comfortable as soon as they walk through the doors.

The Atmosphere

The little things help create a space where people feel welcomed as they are:

- Hospitality through food and beverages.
- Music, lighting, and room setup create an inviting environment.
- A culture where people feel seen from the moment they arrive.

The Details Behind the Scenes

A great Connect experience happens because leaders care about the details. Partner together to help create a smooth experience through:

- Building access and facility needs.
- Production support (Playlist, audio/visual needs).
- Security and campus coordination.

Childcare

Childcare is provided during Women's Connect and Couples Connect gatherings to help remove barriers and create space for people to fully engage in community.

CONTENT

Women's & Men's - Armor Up: Living Ready for the Battle You Can't See

Every day, whether we realize it or not, we are engaged in a spiritual battle. The enemy seeks to distract, deceive, discourage, and divide, but God has not left us defenseless. Through Jesus, we have everything we need to stand firm, walk in freedom, and live with confidence in the midst of life's challenges.

In this Spiritual Warfare study, we'll dive into what Scripture teaches about the unseen realities shaping our world and our lives. Together, we'll learn how to identify the enemy's tactics, overcome spiritual strongholds, put on the armor of God, and anchor ourselves in God's truth.

Rather than living in fear of spiritual opposition, we'll discover how to live with courage, wisdom, and confidence in the victory Christ has already secured.

"For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."
(Ephesians 6:12)

This study will provide space to engage Scripture, process what you're learning with others, and take practical steps toward deeper faith and greater spiritual resilience. Join us as we learn what it means to stand firm and walk faithfully in the strength of God.

[Right Now Media Link:](#)

Couples Connect: God's Design for Relationships — Discovering Love, Identity & Connection Through His Truth

God created us for relationship. From the very beginning, He designed a connection to be a place where we experience love, belonging, trust, and the reflection of His heart. But the way we understand and pursue relationships is often shaped by our experiences, our culture, and the messages we've picked up along the way.

In this Couples Connect series, we'll explore God's design for relationships and what it means to build connections that reflect His heart. Together, we'll look at how God created us to love and be loved, how our identity in Christ shapes the way we show up in relationships, and how His design leads us toward something deeper, healthier, and more life-giving than what the world around us often offers.

No matter your story, your past, or where you find yourself today, God meets you with grace and invites you to discover the fullness of His design for relationships. He invites us to experience the freedom, healing, and connection found within His design—not because He is withholding something from us, but because His heart is to lead us toward the relationships, He created us to experience. As we seek Him, we begin to understand His wisdom, recognize His purpose, and discover what it looks like to build relationships shaped by His truth.

Throughout this series, we'll explore what Scripture teaches about identity, dating and discernment, emotional intimacy, communication, forgiveness, and intentional relationships. Wherever you find yourself in your relationship journey—whether you're newly dating, have been together for years, are married, or are navigating a season of singleness—you are invited into this conversation. You'll be surrounded by others in different seasons and stages of life as we ask honest questions, have meaningful conversations, and discover how God's design can shape the way we love, connect, and grow with one another.

[Right Now Media Link:](#)

CREATING HEALTHY GROUP CONVERSATIONS

Connect is a place where people can show up as they are, be known, and grow together. Table Leaders help create a safe, welcoming environment where honest conversations can happen and people can take their next step toward Jesus.

Group Commitments

- Be present & respectful— Listen well, share honestly, and make space for everyone.
- Protect confidentiality— Honor the trust of what is shared within your group.
- Point toward Jesus— Encourage with grace, Scripture, and prayer rather than trying to fix or counsel.
- Create space for everyone— Invite participation while honoring each person's journey.

Table Leader Practices

- Set the tone early and create a welcoming environment.
- Learn names and stories.
- Balance participation and help everyone feel included.
- Follow up, pray, and care for your group beyond the gathering.
- Stay flexible and trust God to work in the conversation.

The win is a connection, not a perfectly run meeting.

Your role is not to have all the answers—it's to create space for people to belong, be known, and grow closer to Jesus.

When Challenges Come Up

- Over-talker: Gently create space for others to share. Be willing to acknowledge that some conversations may need to be taken offline.
- Quiet participant: Encourage without pressure.
- Someone needing more support: Listen, pray, & involve your Lead Host when needed.
- Inconsistent attendance: Follow up with grace and care.

You don't have to carry difficult situations alone. Partner with your Lead Host or campus staff when additional support is needed.

CARE & PRAYER

You are not just leading a group—you are creating a space where people can be known, welcomed, and encouraged as they take their next step toward Jesus.

The relationships built around your table matter. Often, the greatest impact happens beyond the weekly gathering through a text of encouragement, a prayer shared, or someone knowing they are not walking alone.

Stay Connected

Consider creating a group of text or GroupMe to help your group stay connected throughout the week. Use this space to:

- Encourage one another.
- Share reminders and updates.
- Celebrate what God is doing.
- Ask for and pray over prayer requests.

Care Well

Pay attention to the people God has placed around your table. Look for opportunities to follow up, offer encouragement, and let people know they are seen and cared for.

Table Leaders are not expected to carry everything alone. If someone shares a situation that requires additional support, wisdom, or resources, connect with your Lead Host or campus staff. Each campus has a resource page available to help provide support and next steps for different needs.

Creating a Safe & Honest Space

Connect is meant to be a place where people can be authentic, share honestly, and experience community. At the same time, some leaders or participants may serve in roles that require them to follow mandatory reporting guidelines. This means there may be situations where information shared must be reported according to legal requirements.

Our goal is always to care for people well, honor trust, and respond with compassion while following the responsibilities we have been given.

Through your care, prayers, and presence, you help create the kind of authentic community where people can grow in their faith, live on mission, and experience the fruit that comes from following Jesus together.

LEADER COMMITMENT

A Prayerful Commitment to Serve in Connect

Stepping into the role of a Connect Host or Leader is an invitation to partner with God in creating spaces where people can experience belonging, authentic community, and spiritual growth. We recognize that true transformation happens through the work of the Holy Spirit, and we are grateful for those who are willing to open their hearts, give their time, and faithfully walk alongside others.

As a Connect Host or Leader, I recognize that this role is more than facilitating a group—it is an opportunity to serve God by creating a space where people feel welcomed, known, and encouraged in their relationship with Christ. I understand that I do not serve through my own strength, but through dependence on God and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

My Commitment Before God:

As I step into this role, I commit to faithfully serve with a heart surrendered to God. I will seek His wisdom, rely on His strength, and trust Him to work in and through me as I care for the people He places in my Connect group.

Before God, I commit to:

- Lead with authenticity, humility, and dependence on Christ.
- Create a welcoming environment where people feel seen, known, and valued.
- Be present, prepared, and consistent in serving my Connect group.
- Pray regularly for the people in my group and seek God's guidance in how I lead.
- Protect a safe and confidential space where people can be honest, vulnerable, and experience grace.
- Pursue my own spiritual growth so that I can continue to serve from a place of overflow.
- Encourage others toward deeper community, spiritual growth, and a closer relationship with Jesus.
- Reflect the heart, values, and vision of Connect as I care for those God has entrusted to me.

My prayer is that God would use Connect to transform lives, strengthen relationships, and create spaces where people experience the love and grace of Christ. I trust that He is the one who does the work, and I am simply choosing to be available, faithful, and obedient to His calling.

Connect Host/Leader Signature: _____ Date: _____