

Due to the virus, the restrictions are changing daily as more cities are sending out “shelter at home” orders. This is basically, making face-to-face Celebrate Recovery meetings impossible. Your Celebrate Recovery National Team has created a way for us to connect while face-to-face groups aren’t possible.

We shared with you on FB Live Wednesday different ways you can still connect. And you all came up with a lot of great ideas as well.

Remember to stay in contact with your sponsor and sponsees. Also check in with your accountability partners daily. Share with each other over the phone and pray for one another.

Look for group members you can reach out to. One idea is to set up a time each day to call through a list of people. Don’t forget the Newcomers that you’ve exchanged phone numbers with. This will be a great way to stay connected.

Join us on Facebook, YouTube and Instagram for content, devotionals and more.

The question keeps coming up about online groups.

Celebrate Recovery members know about the stance Celebrate Recovery has taken about online Open Share groups. For years, people have wanted us to have these groups. But for safety reasons we have said no. Unfortunately, with the crisis in our world, having face-to-face groups in many places is not going to be possible right now.

Having said that there are still many areas of the country that can meet in groups of 10 or less. If you can do that, we would encourage you to keep doing it.

Now back to the topic at hand, online groups. By creating Celebrate Recovery Crisis Response (CRCR) online Open Share groups, we believe this can be a temporary solution for you still to be able to connect. As soon as we get through this pandemic, we will go back to face-to-face meetings only.

These groups are something like the time we are in; brand new.

Here's what they will look like.

The online group will be gender specific. They must be led by a trained leader from a local Celebrate Recovery. All members are committed to being alone in the room they are in.

These groups will be formed from existing groups from a local ministry. These groups will be overseen by the Ministry Leader from a local CR.

The CRCR guidelines must be used every time. The leader is subject to remove anyone who is not following the guidelines.

The CRCR guidelines are:

1. Keep your sharing focused on your own thoughts, feelings, and actions. Please limit your sharing to 3-5 minutes.
2. There is NO cross talk please. Cross talk is when two people engage in a dialogue during the meeting. Each person sharing is free to express feelings without interruptions.
3. We are here to support one another. We will not attempt to "fix" one another.
4. Anonymity and Confidentiality are basic requirements. What is shared in the group stays in the group. The only exception is when someone threatens to injure themselves or others.
5. Offensive language has no place in a Christ-centered recovery group.
6. All members must use headphones. This will ensure that no one else can overhear what is shared in the group.
7. All members must be on camera. If the group leader asked, they must show

the rest of the group that no one else is in the room.

8. The meetings will not be recorded.

We are counting on you to keep these groups as safe as possible.

Note: if the internet is a trigger for you, if you have decided to not use the internet to protect your recovery, you need to take extra precautions such as, going over to a friend's house who is in the group and be online in the group together.

As a leader or participant of these groups you are responsible for protecting one another's safety in the group.

Go to Zoom.us to sign up for free meetings. You can do a free meeting up to 40 minutes. You can do an unlimited time meeting if you pay \$14.99 a month. The leader needs to be the host of the Zoom call

Remember, this will not be a Large Group meeting with teaching CR lessons. We will have available every Monday-Friday night at 6:00 pm PST with devotionals and encouragement from your CR National Leaders.

Bullet points to summarize:

1. Celebrate Recovery Crisis Response Open Share Groups will be allowed.
2. These online CRCR Open Share groups are temporary.
3. If you can still meet in groups of 10 or less, face to face, that is still the best option.
4. The 8 group guidelines will ensure better safety in these CRCR online Open Share groups.
5. We are making this allowance only during the crisis.

