**Top 10 Reasons Singles Dislike Zoom**

**by Kris Swiatocho Ministries**

***Not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. –Hebrews 10:25 ESV***

Since the start of COVID-19 most churches, companies, families, and friends are using Zoom (and other online software). While it’s been an incredible resource that has helped keep us connected, something vital during these times, it has not replaced what singles so desperately need or desire…to be with each other.

In a recent interview with a large church in Houston, I asked the pastor about his numbers regarding Zoom. While his married Sunday school classes were either maintaining or growing in attendees, the singles classes were declining. Only a percentage were joining their zoom meetings. So why is this?

**SINGLES…**

**1. Need to Fellowship.** God has designed us for fellowship. While most married couples have fellowship at home, most single adults do not. Sure, there are those with roommates, who live with their family or are single parenting, but Zoom just cannot replace what it feels to be in a group of others, smiling, laughing and sharing life. Some ministries are doing Zoom scavenger hunts, trivia, Pictionary, etc. and it has helped. But singles need to physically be with others.

**2. Need to Touch:** Like all humans, touch is very important. So, when you are single and living alone, the lack of touch starts to mess with your mind to the point that some singles have ventured out of quarantine, risking their lives. A Zoom meeting nor those cute emoticons can replace a real hug.

**3. Desire to Date.** While Zoom can still lead to initiating friendships that could lead to dating, it has definitely slowed the process. We strongly encourage Zoom meetings to include break out rooms. While you are not able to pick who goes into the room if your group is random each week, you can still trust God in the process. We also encourage singles to initiate contact through the private chat.

Note: Kris to put a link to her other article on Dating During COVID-19

**4. Feel Zoomed to Death.** They are simply worn out, fatigued by the end of the day because they are using Zoom at their work and other ministries. While they do desire to connect with their singles Sunday school class or small group, they are simply struggling with energy. So, to combat this, we have told singles it’s OK to not join each week. Come as you are able.

**5. Struggling with Depression:** Some singles are really struggling during this isolation period. They are concerned about their work, finances, family, and their own chance of getting COVID-19. This depression is keeping them from joining in, creating even more isolation. The problem here is without us trying to contact them, we won’t know. We need to encourage folks to contact those they have not heard from, even if it’s by mail or dropping by their home.

**6. Don’t Know Anyone:** Some singles whose churches do not offer Zoom or a singles ministry are looking for ways to connect outside their church.  However, the fear of not knowing anyone in a foreign Zoom group has kept some of them from joining or returning.

**7. Having Tech Issues:** Some singles struggle with the tech side of Zoom. We hear how they have to use their computer to log in and their phone to talk. They struggle with this each week and eventually stop joining. There is no one in their home or who can visit to show them how to use the software.

**8. There is No Leadership:** Some singles feel their Zoom study is not connecting them. They never hear from their leader or teacher outside the meeting. They are convinced that no one truly cares about them. Some have even said they have never heard from anyone in their church. My concern here is when our churches do open up, will we lose singles?

**9. Concerned over Safety Issues:** Some singles are concerned about how safe Zoom really is. From the viruses they hear about to the zoom bombs, they choose to stay off.  Typically, these are also the singles that don’t like social media. They want to stay private. Unfortunately, social media and apps like Zoom are the way churches are staying connected. This is making it extra hard for them. Churches and ministries do need to continue to reach out to those who choose not to join the Zoom meetings.

**10. Not Meeting Their Needs:** Sure, some are loving it and you can tell by how much they share, the messages in the chat, and how they interact. But some feel apprehensive to share and as a result, feel even more isolated. They simply want to physically be around people. They want to share and be heard. And as much as they understand this is the way it is for now; they prefer to just wait till church opens back up.

So, we have listed the ways Zoom *has not* helped but what about the ways *it has* helped?

**What Zoom has done for singles that are having a positive effect on their lives?**

**1. Kept singles connected in one way or another.** And if you stay connected, if you comment, ask for prayer, share about things in your life, you open the door for further conversation from others. This conversation will help in all ways during this time. These conversations can lead to new friendships.

**2. Given us a resource, a tool to invite others who might not go to your church or live in your area.** We are finding that some singles were not in any kind of small group or even attending church and are now joining Zoom groups. For my own ministry, I have been able to connect leaders from around the world.

**3. A tool to help us in our work, with our families and friends.** For some of us who weren’t staying as in touch with others prior to COVID-19 but are now connecting more and more with others. We are getting to know folks that we never knew before. It reminds of the importance to check-in with people who might have fallen through the cracks.

**4. It gives you something to look forward too; some structure during a time of little structure.**We know lack of structure, of routine, creates a crisis. Zoom has helped keep people off the ledge.

**5. Reminds us God is still in control.** We can hear from others, their stories, their praises, and prayers. It can encourage us to keep going.

**6. Reminds us to use the resources we have to do the work of the Lord.**

**7. To listen more and talk less. Zoom is a tool that requires us to listen more.**

**8. To be thankful, even when we feel stressed, angry, and concerned for our future.** God hasn’t forgotten you.

So whether you like Zoom or not, remember the important thing is we stay connected in one way or another. We remember to check-in, encourage, pray for, and support those God has placed in our lives. The enemy wants to destroy but Jesus came to give life.

***The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. John 10:10 NKJV***

Kris Swiatocho, Director

[www.KrisSwiatochoMinistries.org](http://www.krisswiatochoministries.org/)

[www.TheSinglesNetwork.org](http://www.thesinglesnetwork.org/)Ministries

[www.TheSinglesNetwork.org.uk](http://www.thesinglesnetwork.org.uk/) Ministries

[www.LaborDaySingles.org](http://www.labordaysingles.org/) (Annual Event Singles and Leaders Retreat), Sept 3-7th, 2020)

[www.PrayforaMate.com](http://www.prayforamate.com/)

[Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/thesinglesnetworkministries/)

[www.YesMarketinganddesign.com](http://www.yesmarketinganddesign.com/) (Design/Marketing Resources)

919.434.3611

638 Spartanburg Hwy, Ste 70-113, Hendersonville, NC 28792