



## HANGOUTS

*“The most persuasive argument for the Christian faith is the Christian community. The majority of conversions throughout church history have come not through argumentation, but through belonging to a meaningful community before belief is ever required.”*

– Todd Engstrom

## HOW TO HOST AN AWESOME HANGOUT NIGHT

### WHAT IS A HANGOUT NIGHT?

A monthly gathering hosted by a RidgeGroup that intentionally creates a warm and welcoming place to invite new people to experience their life-changing community.

### WHY DO WE DO HANGOUT NIGHTS?

Hangout Nights serve as strategic invite opportunities for the ONE you are praying for and investing in. By creating a place that displays authentic Biblical community, we desire to offer hope to our friends and neighbors as they experience the love of Christ in a fun, but profound way.

### WHO IS IT PRIMARILY FOR?

These nights are intentionally designed for those who are not yet in the group. A great question to ask is, “Who in my life could benefit from a group like this?” As you think through this list, consider your ONE. These nights provide a great opportunity to invite them and invest in that relationship. Additionally, consider your neighbors and other people who are not involved in a RidgeGroup.

### WHEN WILL WE DO IT?

RidgeGroups meet weekly and party monthly. Choose a specific week of the month (first, last, etc.) and set that as your designated “Hangout Night.” It helps to appoint a natural “connector” to plan these events.

### HOW DO WE HOST A HANGOUT NIGHT?

We want every member of the group to be involved:

- **Each One Bring One:** Ask each member to invite their ONE
- **Each One Connects With One:** Ask each member to connect with one new person each Hangout Night
- **Each One Follows Up With One:** Ask each member to invite their friend back the next week.

### HOW DO WE HOST A HANGOUT NIGHT?

The ideas for Hangout Nights are endless. Start with the question, “**What type of event would my ONE like to attend?**” Check out the the list on the back of this page for engaging and welcoming ideas geared for both believers and non-believers.

## HANGOUT NIGHTS (PHYSICAL GATHERINGS)

**Grill Out:** Have your group over and invite the neighbors! This is fun especially on a warm day where everyone can be outside talking, and don't be afraid to break out cornhole.

**Mini Golf:** Gather together as a group and carpool down to Mini Golf for a night full of fun and laughs. Be ready to find out who are the real golfers in the group!

**Escape Room:** The escape room is a great way for you and your group to bond on a level like never before. Learn how to communicate with the people in your group and see how they handle stress.

**Bowling:** This is the staple of a classic group night out where everyone can get together and have a good time all the while hurling balls at an assortment of pins.

**Board Game Night:** Have your group over and invite the lost people in your lives to come because everyone loves board games. What's good about this activity is that once you finish one you can just start another one.

**Yard Game Night:** Feel free to play whatever game you want. The whole point of this activity is to get everyone outside and show your community what it looks like to live in a community with others.

**Potluck:** Food is always a win! The host will let the group members know in advance and everyone can choose what they want to bring then inviting the people is the easy part!

**Serve The Community:** Serving in the community will not only allow your group to grow closer to each other but also will set an example of what it looks like to follow Christ in a fallen world.

**Go To A Restaurant:** Get out of the house! Go to a restaurant with the members of your group and get to know each other better over a meal.

**Karaoke Night:** Get ready to break out your singing voice because there is no judgment when your group does a karaoke night. This is a great opportunity as a group to have fun but also could be used as a time where you and your group could worship together.

**Go To A Local Event:** Go out and get to know the people in your community and have a good time. This is a great time to see the needs of other people and see potential serving opportunities.

## HANGOUT NIGHTS (DIGITAL GATHERINGS)

**Scavenger Hunt:** The host calls out a household item and the first person to fetch the item and bring it back wins.

**Trivia Night:** Invite your neighborhood to join your trivia night. Each household functions as a team!

**Bingo:** It doesn't get any easier than Bingo. You can play a traditional game with a virtual caller or you could play a custom game around a movie or TV show your group wants to watch.

**Name, Place, Animal, Thing:** To play, pick a letter. Each player has to list a famous person's name, a place, an animal, and a thing that begins with that letter. The first person to type them into the Zoom chat wins.

**Heads Up:** Get the people in your group to download this app and the family with the highest score wins the night!

**Take Your Pets To The Zoom:** Everyone in your group gets the chance to bring their furry friend on screen with them and show them off.

**Theme Night:** The host contacts all the people in the group and tells them a certain theme. When you log on for your hangout night everyone can vote on who dressed up/decorated the best.

**Pictionary:** Thanks to Zoom you can share a whiteboard with everyone and start drawing. The first person to guess the drawing in the chat gets a point. At the end of the night, the person with the most points wins.

**Fine Dining:** This isn't a game that your group can play but it does help build relationships. The group picks a night where they can all meet over zoom and "share" a meal. To up the experience have everyone put on their nicest clothes.

**Karaoke Night:** YouTube has plenty of karaoke songs that you and your group can jam to! Go from person to person or family to family and whoever gives the best/funniest performance wins the night.