

## **Core Leader as a Shepherd Continued Communication with Core Members**

Shepherding is about building relationship with your core members by connecting with them. There are many effective tools you have to reach your core members. Yes, some of you may have found that a phone call did not work for some of your core members. So, what did you do?

There are lots of ways for us to communicate; text, e-mail, card, or perhaps a one on one meeting for coffee. Or perhaps purposefully sitting with a different core member each week during teaching time. That might result in a few minutes before or after the teaching to connect with that core member. All these forms of communication say that you care about them.

The purpose for this communication is to get to know them better and through a closer relationship, build trust which will lead to more in depth conversation in the group. Have you been able to do that? Are there some individuals that seem to be avoiding you or that set ground rules early on that have limited your ability to build a relationship?

Perhaps it's time to try again!

***“Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.” ~ Ezekiel 36:26***

### **Questions:**

1. Have you tried to schedule a one on one with any of your core members? Or intentionally sat next to a “reluctant to communicate” core member during teaching time?
  
2. How many of you have someone in your group that has been difficult to reach? What steps have you taken to reach them?
  
3. Do you think it makes sense to try and reach these individuals, even if it's late in the year? Why or Why not?