# How to effectively create and use Church Connection Cards



connect with visitors & pastor your people

fromyvonprehn

#### Why so important

- When in need people still come to church
- How can we connect with a visitor?
- How can we find out about the needs of our people?
- How can we BE THE CHURCH?



## Much more than paperwork

- Each filled out card represents a person
- Each person fills out the card with:
  - Questions
  - Fears
  - Pain
  - Hope
- Importance cannot be overstated



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#### All of this is in detail in book

- I will give you concrete, specific training in this webinar
- Much more information available
- Book available, how to download/order it at the end



## What church traditions almost guarantee no one will respond

- Attendance booklets/pads
- Cards in pews
- Visitor packets at visitor center
- Tear-off part of bulletin
- Assuming "everybody knows" so no mention



# How to get the most people to fill them out

- THIS WORKS!
- · Pastor leader announces
- ALL take out cards
- · ALL fill out cards then
- Take up with offering
- Be aware of continuous struggles to do this



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#### How to triage the cards

- · History of Triage
  - War
  - Emergencies
- Red/immediate intervention
- · Yellow/observation
- · Green/can wait



## **Church application**

- · Red: emergencies
  - Immediate screening and response
  - No later than 24 hours
  - Pastoral team/volunteers
- Yellow
  - Respond within ONE week
  - Needs, volunteer requests
  - Ministry requests
- Greer
  - Clerical, ASAP
- MUST BE PREPARED IN ADVANCE

# How to use cards as prayer cards

- VERY important pastoral tool
- We don't have time for personal interaction
- Useful in all ministries
- Challenge of lots of requests
  - No room in bulletin
  - No time for staff group prayers
  - Prayer team a great solution
- Respond



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#### What to do and not do in visitor follow up

- Respond quickly
- Don't lie
- · Make your response specific
  - e.g. include ministry materials
- · Value of tracts
- Invite to interact
  - Latte with the pastor
- · Creative goodies, location appropriate



### Reality check

- Tremendous work to make this work
- Huge ROI
  - In church growth
    - · Not big, but WORKS
  - Pastoral care
  - Eternity



#### Practical tool for eternal rewards

- Matt: 25: 34"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. <sup>35</sup>For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, <sup>36</sup>I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'
- <sup>37</sup>"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? <sup>38</sup>When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? <sup>39</sup>When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' <sup>40</sup>"The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.' <sup>37</sup>"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we

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#### In Review

- Church Connection Cards, when done correctly, provide a way for you to:
  - Connect with visitors
  - Pastor your people
- Response must be
  - Immediate
  - Appropriate





#### Book has much more



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