

HCFA EXILE SURVIVAL GUIDE

“Do not be afraid, for I am with you;
I will bring your children from the east
and gather you from the west.
I will say to the north, ‘Give them up!’
and to the south, ‘Do not hold them back.’
Bring my sons from afar
and my daughters from the ends of the earth—
everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.
See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.” -Isaiah 43:5-7, 19

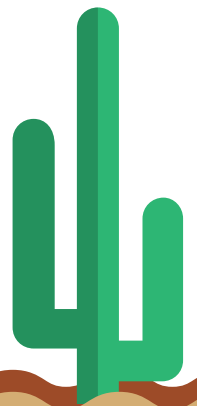


THE ADVENTURE BEGINS!

Welcome to the HCFA Exile Survival Guide! As we are all scattered suddenly to our respective homes or temporary locations, it is vital that we remember that our God has not abandoned us and that He will be working even this for His glory and our good. This document is meant as a resource to provide practical spiritual advice for maintaining our relationships with God, remaining hopeful in the face of fear, and being a blessing to those around us. If you have anything you'd like to add to any section (especially to the resource section), please do [here](#) on the [Google Doc!](#)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREFACE	1
SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES.....	2
Reading Scripture	2
Prayer & Meditation.....	3
Fasting	3
Service	4
God in Creation	5
Worship	6
RESOURCES	7
Online church services	7
Books	7
Sermon archives	9
Podcasts	9
COMMUNITY	10
Tips for staying plugged in	10
Accountability	10
HCFA in the wilderness	11
Community prayer sheet	11
Directory	11



PREFACE: LOOKING AROUND US

This is a hard time. Many of us are lonely. It can be tiring and discouraging to have been kicked out of our home at Harvard, leave our community and friends we love, and be expected to carry on with school and life without leaving our homes.

And it is a profoundly scary time. Beyond our own troubles, the consequences of the spread of coronavirus are growing daily. Nothing is certain. How can a Christian live in times like these?

Our hope is that in this survival guide we will stumble upon the answer to this question: Christians should live as we've always supposed to live. We will live with love because Christ first loved us. With patience, because we hope for something better. With courage, because God is for us, with us, and within us. With confidence, because we have been redeemed by blood. With joy, because God is working this for our good. With power, because the Spirit is alive in us. And without fear of death, for Christ has been raised and so will we.

But this is still a hard time. Many of us are still lonely. And it is still scary. The hope of this survival guide is to allow us to see that we are not in as much of an uncharted territory as we think and are not as alone as we feel. Exile and plague are not new things. We are surrounded by a God who loves us, in a world he made us, and members of the Church heads in perfect love. This is a togetherness that social distancing cannot touch.

So as you read this survival guide, we hope that there are things that help you learn to see and feel how connected we all are. So take what is useful and go back into the world with it. Don't sit in front of your screen more than you have to. Find those you can see face to face. Whatever we do, let's fight to not isolate ourselves ever.

As we learn, painfully, slowly, and empowered by God's matchless grace, let's learn to look around us. Therefore: *"Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality."* Romans 12:9-13

With so much love to every member of the HCFA community and the Body,
Cam, Ana & Caleb





SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES: SUSTENANCE FOR SURVIVAL

You hear it all the time: “Christianity isn’t a religion; it’s a relationship with God.” If this is the case, then like any relationship, maintenance and growth require intentional time spent with the other person. While we are scattered as a community and unable to be with one another in the flesh, Jesus--our greatest friend, our prince of peace, is with each of us constantly. Not only so, His is the only relationship that will ever truly fill our deeply human desires to know and be known, to love and be loved.

Communication is the key to getting to know someone--including Jesus. The spiritual disciplines are principally meant for our communication with God. Imagine them as actions that collect to form an ongoing conversation with Jesus, a conversation that is deeply transformative. Like any good conversation, intentional listening and open sharing are key.

READING SCRIPTURE (LISTENING TO GOD)

The Bible is marvelous. It’s God’s love letter to those who follow Him, an intricate yet accessible story of his love for humanity. When we read scripture, we aren’t just studying an ancient text that makes spiritual claims. Instead, we are actively hearing from the God of the universe about who He is, how He relates to us, and His promises. Reading scripture transforms our hearts and minds as the Holy Spirit illuminates its truth and brings us to deep understanding of it. There isn’t one right way to make scripture a part of your devotional time, but there are a few principles that are good to abide by:

First, read scripture regularly and often. Ideally, every day. Only once we are immersed in His word consistently will we begin to see its transformative work in our lives. If this feels like a chore, consider reframing the act of reading Scripture for yourself: the God of all Creation has made Himself freely available to you through the Bible; we don’t have to spend time listening to Him, but we get to spend time listening to Him. Ask the Holy Spirit for energy and power to make Bible study a part of your daily routine.

Second, read systematically. This doesn’t mean you must start at Genesis 1 and read straight through to Revelation. Oftentimes, people try to do this for their own self-satisfaction and they get bogged down by parts of the Old Testament, discouraged, and resentful. Try reading book-by-book, and if you’re looking for a place to start, try the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John). No better way to learn about God than from the life and ministry of Jesus! The Epistles (Romans to 2 Peter, excluding Hebrews) are also accessible and are usually quick reads. (Note, this doesn’t mean you shouldn’t dive into the Old Testament if that interests you... if it does, go for it! And consider using some of the supplemental resources below to guide your personal study. At the end of the day, the point is to be real with yourself... where are you spiritually, and how well equipped do you feel to handle various parts of the Bible?)

Third, read attentively and in context. Individual Bible verses are rarely useful out of context. Read before and after short passages to understand where they lie in the scheme of a book. Likewise, pay attention to major themes. How does a passage inform you of God’s character? Of the human situation? Of the Gospel? What can you take away from it on a practical level?

Optional plan: Daniel. Read one chapter every day before breakfast and try to spend a solid 10-15 minutes on it. Read it over, read it over again, find confusing or surprising bits and pray over them, reflect, ask God what they mean. Try and understand how the passage connects or points to Jesus, and what it might be speaking to your own life.

READING SCRIPTURE (CONTINUED)

Another optional plan: Bible in One Year is an incredible app that goes through (you've guessed it) the Bible in One Year. It has three readings, one from the Psalms or Proverbs, one from the New Testament, and one from the Old Testament. It is in an app with a nice interface, and each scripture has a short devotional thought from Nicky Gumbel (the guy that does Alpha) that ties them together and helps make sense of it all. You can also listen to it read in Nicky Gumbel's mellifluous British accent.

PRAYER & MEDITATION (HEARING FROM, SHARING WITH GOD)

How cool that when we pray, we have a direct line to the Lord of the Universe. While prayer may sometimes feel like you're talking to a wall, Scripture promises that when we speak to God, He listens. Prayer requires faith that this is true and that God is good to hear and respond.

There is no one right way to pray. Some people lump prayer and meditation together as one spiritual discipline, while for others they are very distinct. In essence, they are another vital component of having an active conversation with God; if God speaks to us through Scripture, then we speak to Him through prayer and deepen our listening to His word through meditation.

The Bible shows that God is trustworthy, compassionate, and near to those who seek Him. When you pray, be honest and vulnerable with Him. He has died for you, and because of Jesus you are clothed in His grace, already perfect in His sight. There is no need to keep up any pretense of being perfect out of our own effort when we pray to Him. We can come before God with all of our mess, failures, disappointments, frustrations. We can give Him all of our shining moments, victories, and praises. He will take it all. There are many different frameworks that people find helpful for prayer. Here are a couple:

Jesus teaches us how to pray in the Lord's prayer. While short, every part of the Lord's prayer is intentional, and the order through which it moves from reverence to submission to asking for provision (and more) is all intentional. Study the Lord's prayer. Pray the Lord's prayer. Sing it. Memorize it. Construct your prayers to be like it.

ACTS is another framework that can be helpful. It's an acronym:

Adoration (praising God for who He is)

Confession (bringing our sin into light before Him, humbly acknowledging our fallenness and need of Him)

Thanksgiving (praising God for what He's done for us)

Supplication (lifting up requests for ourselves and others)

FASTING

Fasting is an incredibly counterintuitive and yet incredibly rewarding discipline, whereby we deprive ourselves of some worldly "necessity" and devote ourselves more completely to God, trusting in His provision. The point of fasting is to remind ourselves that we are not of the flesh, but of the Spirit (Romans 8:9-10), and that we need God alone to sustain us. While food is the obvious thing to fast from, it is not the only one. The idea is to deny the lies of Satan, which are the lies of the world that anything in it is necessary for us by going without it for some period of time. Fasting is therefore entirely counterintuitive and even nonsensical to the world and those in the world. But for us who are in the Spirit, it is incredibly rewarding, drawing us closer to God, often empowering our prayers, and making ourselves more receptive to His word and Spirit.



FASTING (CONTINUED)

Consider these two examples of fasting in the Bible:

2 Chronicles 20: When the Moabites, Ammonites and Meunites came to attack Judah, rather than preparing for war or seeking alliances or aid from the neighboring countries of Egypt and Assyria, King Jehoshaphat declared a nationwide fast. In response to this, God promised to deliver him from the invaders and set them upon themselves until all were destroyed. Contrast this to the earlier story of King Ahaz, who refused to turn to God and instead sought help against invaders from Egypt. Because of this, God sent an even greater enemy, Assyria to ravage Judah. The moral of these two stories is that, contrary to what “common sense” would have us believe, God is the only one who can deliver us from the evil, enemies, fears, and disasters that we face. Fasting and prayer in conjunction are especially useful ways for us to remind ourselves to accept His grace and provision.

Luke 4: Jesus, at the beginning of His ministry, went away into the wilderness for 40 days and fasted the whole time. That’s crazy. And in that time Satan came to Him and tempted Him, but the Holy Spirit was strong in Him (the same Spirit that now dwells in us!) and kept Him from sin. In the same way, fasting can be a great way to break us out of sin patterns that we may otherwise feel stuck in.

Here’s an inspiring article on the importance of fasting: <https://www.desiringgod.org/messages/prayer-fasting-and-the-course-of-history>

Optional plan: Fast from all food from for a 24-hour period from after Friday dinner until Saturday dinner (or any other day) each week and devote that time instead to prayer, against the coronavirus, for health and safety of our spiritual and physical families, and that in all of this God would be glorified and that many people would come to know Him and be saved.

SERVICE

While service is an incredible rich spiritual discipline, it is more rightly understood as a *spiritual identity in Christ*, in which we reflect God’s love and nature to those around us (Mt 20:26). God has always served his creation. The incarnation of Christ is the ultimate embodiment of service (Mt 22:20, Phil 2:1-10). Our primary service is to God, but we understand that part of serving God is serving others (Dt 6:13, Ps 100:2, 1 Jn 4:20).

Times of crises should be when Christians serve more than everyone else, not because of our internal moral strength, but because it is God who strengthens us and gives us love for others (Php 2:13). One element of service is helping your community, volunteering at shelters or food banks, doing things for strangers. That is one type of service and it is awesome, though when most of us cannot leave our homes, it can be hard to do. We serve our communities better by staying at home and being safe right now!

But there are many other kinds of service. For those of us with our families, one kind of service is to serve them. God has placed us where we are and given us our particular families for a reason. In helping around the house, serving our parents, giving grace to our siblings, we can serve them and glorify God.

Service is also an integral part of what it means to be a member of the body of Christ. While we are called to bring radical service to everyone, especially the marginalized in society (cf. Is 58:6-8, Mt. 25:40-45, 1 Jn 3:17, Jms 1:27, to name a few verses out of hundreds), we are called into a special service to fellow members of the Church. This is because we are one body, called by one Lord, with one head. In fact, Jesus makes the incredible claim that “By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another” (Jn 13:35). Thus, service is integral to our identity as Christians. There is no one way to serve the body, but one powerful way is to encourage each other during this hard time (1 Thess 5:12).



SERVICE (CONTINUED)

Another is by praying for each other (2 Cor 1:11). Also the body of Christ is not just HCFA! Make sure to plug into a local church and figure out what your church is doing to serve (no church should not be serving). If you have the financial means give generously to your church (and other organizations that serve) financially (II Cor 9:7). (If you do not have the means, you are still so precious to God, and he wants to use you as much or more than anyone in his glorious works). Remember that God has empowered us to serve by the giving of his Spirit, which enables us to serve in wonderful ways beyond our imaginings. In fact, this is the primary reason for the gifts of the Spirit (I Cor 14:12, I Peter 4:10).

Be creative! Use your imagination. Reach out to a mentor or Christian friend and talk about how to serve. Think constantly of how you can help those around you. Explore how your spiritual gifts can be used to help serve.

A few tangible acts of service that could fill great needs:

- Making masks-- there is a dire shortage of masks for use at medical facilities, retirement homes, and other places where exposure to COVID-19 is either very frequent or particularly dangerous. Many organizations are accepting home-made masks.
- Delivering groceries for neighbors or elderly community members-- if done carefully, this could be a great way to serve locally while preventing close contact with others.

To conclude, remember that service is how a Christian survives and lives a joyful and full life. "These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full" (Jn 15:11). "Serve the LORD with gladness!" (Ps 100:2)

GOD IN CREATION

The Created world exists so that we can know God better. Every part of creation manifests a different dimension of God's great character. Oftentimes, being surrounded by beauty in nature is how I (Ana) have most powerfully beheld the glory of God. God created the world in Genesis, and when He did, he proclaimed every part of it "very good". He loved the created world. And if we are created in His image, then so should we. Nature is one big arrow that points to God, and when we enjoy it and immerse ourselves in it, we can know more about him.

Whenever you go outside, try going alone and staying silent for the whole time. This may seem strange, but silence is what makes that time outdoors so special-- it opens your heart to be better listeners of the Spirit. Our connected lives leave so little time to simply be quiet and attentive to our surroundings, to appreciate the detailed beauty of where we are. When we immerse ourselves in silence, fully rapt in attention to beauty, we inevitably become better listeners of the Holy Spirit.

Being in creation isn't often considered a spiritual discipline. But at a time when it could be easy to shut ourselves up inside and stay in our virtual social spheres all day, let's remember that creation awaits us and promises profound revelation of the Creator.



WORSHIP

"Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth." - Is 12:5

While this is last in the list of spiritual disciplines, it can be argued that it is actually the primary calling of every Christian. And while there is so, so much more (see link below for a tiny bit more), here are a few thoughts and a few playlists. Christian worship is fundamentally trinitarian and motivated by love: we worship the Father, in the Son, by the power of the Holy Spirit. There is no worship apart from Jesus and his death and resurrection, nor apart from the Spirit of Truth. "But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him." - Jn 4:23

The greatest expression of worship in the historical and ever-living Church is that of Communion, of taking the Lord's supper. Seek out communion.

Worship is so much more than singing on Friday night or Sunday morning. But music, especially joyful music (cf Ps 150), is one of the great gifts of God to his people. So attached are some playlists of worship music to encourage us to worship God. Remember, passive worship is an oxymoron, so don't just listen to the music as an act of worship (though listening to it for its musical qualities is great, but just not worship in the fullest sense). Actively let the words and the melodies push your heart towards honoring, loving, and fearing God. For a longer treatment on worship, see <https://www.desiringgod.org/interviews/what-is-worship>.

Here are a few playlists on spotify; Jon and Marina, our worship team leaders, are in the process of making more!

- Here is an old HCFA worship playlist, on Spotify: <https://open.spotify.com/playlist/5cncC4iSWiiZTV6XpvKekJ?si=Ypv7PYyFSvKYg-xA-7Sp8Q>
- Here is a playlist of alternative worship music: <https://open.spotify.com/playlist/242QvUqtEeGVxNuDFfB1jZ?si=ggtlZUKHSfuqwM3VnB5uDA>

Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe. - Heb 12:28





RESOURCES: NAVIGATION FOR THE WILDERNESS

Here is a compilation of some resources that we thought would be interesting, enjoyable, and thought-provoking. These resources are compiled and described by Cam Jones, Ana Yee, Caleb King, and Fady Ghobrial. Please contribute your own ideas here! Our taste is impeccable, but as humans, we are finite, and (probably) missed some good ones. *Hyperlinks are included at each title!

ONLINE CHURCH SERVICES

- [Life.Church](#) with pastor Craig Groeschel. You can tune in live and watch services there.
- [Aletheia Church](#) with pastor Adam Mabry (church services streamed at aletheia.online.church)
- [Elevation Church](#) with pastor Steven Furtick
- [Pentecostal Tabernacle](#) with bishop Brian Greene
- [Wellspring Church](#) with pastor Mitch Kim
- These are just a sampling of churches that have online services!

BOOKS

DAILY DEVOTIONALS

- [New Morning Mercies](#) by Paul David Tripp--A wonderfully engaging daily devotional that can supplement your Bible study time! Probably the most relevant devotional book you could find, and one that Ana's been enjoying!
- [Extreme Devotion](#) by Voice of the Martyrs--Inspiring stories of martyrs across the globe and throughout history, with helpful Scripture passages and reflection points for applying the lessons of each to daily life. Beautiful, inspiring, and really puts things in perspective.
- [Solid Joys](#) by John Piper-- So good. Short and sweet yet profound, deep and theologically very insightful and rich. Highly recommended. You can also [download the app and read it there](#), or [listen to pastor John himself read it on the podcast](#).
- [A Long Obedience in the Same Direction](#) by Eugene Peterson-- This is an incredible 15 chapter book on the Psalms of Ascents (Psalms 120-134) that totally renewed my view on the entire shape of the Christian life. Possibly the only devotional book too date that Caleb's been all about

NON-FICTION

- [The Problem of Pain](#) by CS Lewis-- Perhaps especially relevant in light of the struggles and chaos facing us all at present.
- [What's So Amazing About Grace?](#) By Philip Yancey-- This is, hands down, the best book I read last year. Yancey was the former Editor in Chief for Christianity Today (read: he's a great writer), and in this book he paints a challenging, incredibly beautiful portrait of grace mostly through stories. It's also super relevant to our current political/religious climate.
- [Knowing God](#) by JI Packer-- This one's an absolute classic, maybe one of the best books on theology for lay people. It's personal but rigorous, challenging, and beautifully written.
- [Confessions](#) by Augustine-- A classic and an absolute bop.

BOOKS (CONTINUED)

NON-FICTION (CONTINUED)

- *The Imperfect Disciple* by Jared Wilson-- An easy-to-read, funny, and extremely Biblical take on what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. One of the best books on discipleship that I (Ana) have read.
- *Love Does* and *Everybody, Always* by Bob Goff--Bob Goff is an absolute legend. Both of these books are basically just compilations of his greatest stories (trust me, they're great) with Gospel lessons woven in. You won't want to put it down!
- *Union With Christ* by Rankin Wilbourne--This is a great book on the doctrine of "union with Christ", a doctrine that's not taught about enough in the church. Wilbourne makes the doctrine accessible to lay readers and some of his words were super helpful for me!
- *Confronting Christianity: 12 Hard Questions for the World's Largest Religion* by Rebecca McLaughlin-- a book that came highly recommended by pastor Curtis Cook from Hope Fellowship Church. It addresses major objections to the Christian faith.
- Not a book, but here's the blog of Nick Nowalk (former HCFA ministry fellow): <https://strangetriumph.wordpress.com/>
- Also not a book, but here's [the blog of the Harvard Ichthus](#), a journal of Christian thought and expression (staffed and edited by many of our very own HCFA-ers!)

FICTION

- *The Chronicles of Narnia* by CS Lewis--It's a children's series, which means it's easy to read and fun, and it's packed with allusions to the gospels, which means it's good for you. Imagine the health benefits of baby spinach and the taste of Popeye's chicken sandwich combined.
- *Till We Have Faces* by CS Lewis--An epic retelling of the myth of Cupid and Psyche. Gets pretty wild at times, but there's so much depth throughout.
- *The Screwtape Letters* by CS Lewis--A brilliant exposition of the ways Satan and his demons are trying to lead us all astray, written from a demonic perspective that is equal parts fascinating and insightful.
- *The Student* by Anton Chekhov--Only about four pages, a beautiful short story reflecting on the relevance of the death and resurrection of Jesus throughout all ages.
- *The Brothers Karamazov* by Fyodor Dostoevsky--It's long, but it's also the best book ever written, and the "doxology" in the last five pages is well worth all the suffering and gloom of the previous seven hundred and thirty.
- *The Lightbringer Series* by Brent Weeks. For all the true lovers of massive epic fantasy, this five-book series is an incredibly complex and long story that not only stands as one of the greatest fantasy series of the last decade, but also carefully uses fantasy as a medium to honestly explore what it means to believe in a just God in an unjust world. Weeks' strong Christian belief is always evident, and not all characters fear God, and their actions are commensurate. For those who make it to the end, it is the best literary exploration of God I've ever seen in a fantasy book. Warning: there can be some graphic elements and sexual references in the book (never presented as right, but still there).

POETRY

- *The Stream and the Sapphire* (Collected poems on religious themes) by Denise Levertov
- *Given* by Wendell Berry
- *Collected works of Gerard Manley Hopkins* (especially "[as kingfishers catch fire](#)" and "[God's Grandeur](#)")
- Anything written by [Mary Oliver](#) :)

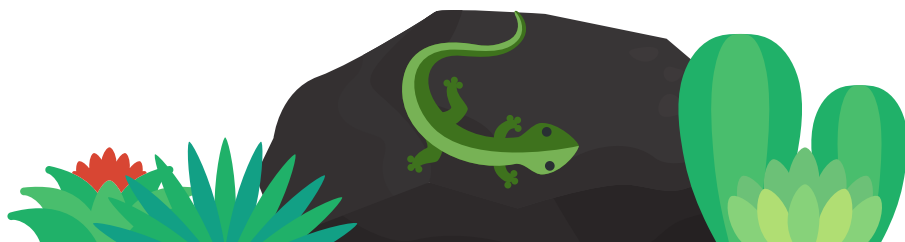


SERMON ARCHIVES

- [Saint Andrew the Great Church](#)--StAG (Cambridge, UK)
- [Truth For Life by Alistair Begg](#)-- note that you can search for sermons thematically, or by chapter of the Bible!
- [Vox Church sermons](#) by Justin Kendrick
- [Wellspring Church](#) in Wheaton, IL. Many great sermons on identity and grace. Pastor Mitch has a very calming voice.
- Voddie Baucham has a store of sermons found [here](#), and a wealth of [YouTube videos on apologetics](#). Really great!
- Archives by other churches like Aletheia, Highrock, Park Street, etc. (see above, at Online Church Services section)

PODCASTS

- [Ask Away](#) by Ravi Zacharias International Ministries, with Vince Vitale from the fall's Outreach Doxa and his wife Jo-- They take a question each week and expound on it apologetically and theologically. The one they have on modesty is especially good, I think.
- [The Bible Project](#) by Tim Mackie et al.-- The Bible Project is an amazing ministry that seeks to foster Biblical literacy... it's super accessible, enriching, and will help you navigate the complexities of Scripture.
- [Breakaway Ministries Podcast](#)--This is an amazing podcast by a big college ministry down at Texas A&M. The messages are from their weekly large group, and most are by their head leader, Timothy Ateek. The messages are based on Scripture but are less intellectual/academic in nature; they're super helpful for practical, daily life application.
- [Systematic Theology](#) by Wayne Grudem-- A great resource which includes all of Dr. Wayne Grudem's lectures through his classic book on systematic theology. Very helpful, super accessible and practical as always. Dr. Grudem is funny and you can always just find the topic that interests you and listen to it.
- [Truth's Table](#): In this podcast from The Witness, formerly the Black Reformed Network, Michelle Higgins, Christina Edmondson, and Ekemini Uwan talk about different aspects of faith and culture. (Check out the Why the Blood Matters episode!)





COMMUNITY: YOUR FELLOW WANDERERS

Getting through exile would be incredibly difficult if we didn't have each other. While we can't be together in person, we are blessed to have technology as a way to continue growing, worshiping, and having fun together! Together, we are the body of Christ; as we continue navigating life together, God can use relationships to teach us even while we're apart. While it might seem tempting to check out from community, we really encourage you to stay plugged in. Below, you'll find a few tips and resources that could make this easier!

TIPS FOR STAYING PLUGGED IN

Because we're scattered across the world, it will naturally be a little overwhelming to maintain large-group relationships. In light of this, I (Ana) have found it easier to try to stay in touch with people individually. Here's what that could look like:

- intentionally praying for, encouraging, and reaching out to one friend a day
- considering different pockets of community at Harvard (friends from class, HCFA, clubs, your dorm, etc.)
- finding a balance between scheduled interactions (ie. a scheduled video call) and spontaneous interactions (calling people on HouseParty, seeing their pictures on social media, texting, etc.)
- considering the people who are closer in proximity-- family, friends who live nearby, friends from high school
- weekly catch-up times with close friends or accountability partners

Here are a few platforms that HCFAers have been using to stay in touch and encourage one another:

- House party (a spontaneous video chat space; takes the scheduling out of video calls!)
- Groupme (The HCFA 2019-2020 Groupme is still as active as ever! Text Ana at 7816368118 to be added.)
- Marco Polo (like an asynchronous video chat; join the HCFA Marco Polo group here: <https://onmarcopolo.com/groups/OHAb3rn0hBdF/hcfa-in-exile>)

Calling into Zoom Bible Courses and Doxa are also a great way to stay connected to the broader HCFA community!

ACCOUNTABILITY

Accountability is a core element of why none of us was called to be Christian alone. The goal of accountability is to walk with together through hard conversation out of love. Working through sin patterns, processing life events, and growing can be extremely difficult by oneself. Walking in accountability with trusted friends makes these processes easier as individuals act as living reminders of truth and grace. To do this well:

- Find one or two Christians you really trust
- Meet regularly with a desire to grow in your faith and to see victory over your struggles
- Be willing not just to tell each other about ways you've struggled or failed, but to come up with loving solutions
- Love each other!
- This is a great activity for Discipleship Groups! If you're interested in joining a Discipleship Group (groups of 3-4 students of the same gender, mixed grades), reach out to Bruce (bगतete@college.harvard.edu) or Olivia (ogphillips@college.harvard.edu)

HCFA IN THE WILDERNESS

HCFA is still going through its weekly rhythms-- virtually! Here's a reminder of some routine events meetings, and group activities that are happening:

Doxa: Thursdays, 8-9:30 PM EST, at hcfa.online.church and zoom.

Bible Courses are still happening over zoom, although their times may have changed since campus move-out (see updated times on [our website](#)). Email any of the ministry fellows below to get looped into a Bible Course:

- Don Weiss (don.weiss@christianunion.org)
- Fady Ghobrial (fady.ghobrial@christianunion.org)
- Renee Ghobrial (renee.ghobrial@christianunion.org)
- Teal Wojcicki (teal.wojcicki@christianunion.org)
- Whitney Gamble (whitney.gamble@christianunion.org)
- Tyler Parker (tyler.parker@christianunion.org)

Book Group: Meeting time and first book still TBD. Text Cam at 6178992388 if you are interested or would like more information! We've started with *Till We Have Faces* by CS Lewis, and it's not too late to join!

Poema: This is a short, informal pdf-publication of faith-related creative work done by Harvard undergrads, HCFA alumni, and college students from other schools. Issues will be sent out over the Logos email list (see Issue 1 [here](#)). All genres are acceptable (poetry, creative writing, visual art, audiovisual work, creative reflections, etc.) and all levels of experience are welcome! Text Cam at 6178992388 or Ana at 7816368118 if you are interested in contributing!

COMMUNITY PRAYER SHEET

If you have prayer requests, big or small, put them on [this Google Doc](#) and people in the community will be praying for you! Likewise, if you are looking for people to pray for, choose a couple of the requests that others have submitted.

DIRECTORY

Some of our wonderful alumni have put together a directory of current and former HCFA-ers. If you filled out the form that was sent out earlier this year, you should have access to it; if not, fill out [this form](#) to be added and to get access!



We hope that these resources are helpful to you over the next few months. Navigating exile is difficult, but we are confident that through Christ and with one another, we will make it through! Our God is big and He is strong; nothing, even COVID-19, can get in the way of His plans.