



March 16, 2020

Dear Friend,

Relationships matter. Checking in with one another matters. That's what people who care for one another do. It's why I'm reaching out again so soon. I care about YOU! As you've connected with me and the GEMS team, we know you agree! You've built relationships with your GEMS. You care about each one and know them by name. And in this unprecedented time, you're wondering what to do next. This wasn't how you *or anyone* scripted the year. Now what?

Great question! I'm an ABC girl. So I wonder if we could start there?

**A. Always start with prayer.** Can we be honest? Prayer in a pandemic can run the gamut of praying non-stop to struggling to put anything to words. Friend, wherever you're at, just keep talking. That's what prayer is, right? Prayer is talking to God! If you need a place to start praying for your club, pull out your club roster and pray the names of every girl and leader. Do it every day. Let's faithfully lift each one to the Father who knows the number of hairs on her head and cares in her heart.

**B. Build relationships.** It's what you've been doing since the beginning of the year. It's what you can continue to do today. Will it look different? It will, and that's okay. Just please don't stop building the relationships. **Our girls need us more today than ever before.** So stay connected, and keep reading for some ideas.

**C. Creatively connect.** There are many ways to keep building relationships! Pray about what works best for you and your girls. It'll depend on the number of girls in your club, their ages, and their availability to technology. But no matter who they are, or who you are, there is a Kingdom-impacting way for you to keep building the relationships!

- Mail notes, cards, or resources. If possible, leave them on front porches or a safe pickup spot at your club. You have current curriculum like badge work, free [downloadables](https://gemsgc.org) for girls from [gemsgc.org](https://gemsgc.org), and God's Word is full of promises you can pen and personalize for them!
- Call your girls or text girls if you are already in that habit. What joy if they could hear your voice! Remind them they are LOVED.
- Email girls, their families, and your leaders. Send them one or more of these ideas below. Maybe spread it out from week to week to stay connected for the next few weeks/months.

- Share the [ReFresh](#) Online Training Program with adults. Direct them to some freebie messages regarding [fears](#), [anxieties](#), and [prayer](#) that could encourage them as they walk with girls through this season.
- Encourage intentional togetherness! Point grown-ups to these [craft](#) ideas they can do with kids at home.
- Inspire girls to live LOVED. Point them to this [notecard](#) and ask them to send a note to someone with the reminder they're LOVED.
- Focus their attention on fun ways to serve one another. Check out these tasty [recipe](#) ideas!

So many creative ways to build relationships! **We'll be using Facebook to post additional ideas** so be sure to follow the [GEMS Girls' Clubs](#) page. For now, we want to highlight one super special way: **Encourage your girls to participate in this new A to Z challenge!** Watch [this video](#) for details and pass along to your parents and girls! The complete A to Z list can be found [here](#).

If there are any ways that we can serve you, please email [hello@gemsgc.org](mailto:hello@gemsgc.org) and we'll do our very best!

Serving Him Together,



Cindy Bultema  
GEMS Executive Director

PS Please know the GEMS team continues to pray for you! You are LOVED.