

Invite and Host

Use it when... *starting a friendship, or a group worth coming back to.*

“What! You too? I thought that no one but myself ...”

C.S. Lewis, *The Four Loves*, on the moment a friendship is born

Work did the hard part of friendship for you. Retirement hands it back. Six steps from acquaintance to friend:

1 • Widen the funnel	Go where people already gather, and choose what repeats.
2 • Make a simple invitation	One man at a time: “I’m fishing Saturday. Want to come?”
3 • Ask curious questions	“What got you into that?”
4 • Follow up	Within two days: “Really enjoyed that. Let’s do it again.”
5 • Create a rhythm	Make the next one automatic: “Fishing Saturdays.”
6 • Become a host	Bring men together. Hosting is where your next five comes from.

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FROM INTEREST TO MISSION

RUNG	WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE
1 • Gather	We smoke meat together.
2 • Host	We smoke meat, and someone brings a question.
3 • Serve	We smoke meat for a family night at Urban Impact.
4 • Send	We teach three younger men, and they start their own.

BEFORE YOU LAUNCH

Our purpose (one you could disagree with): _____

Same day, same place: _____

Our host: _____

Our opening question: _____

Who I will invite in person: _____

THIS SKILL’S PRACTICES S10 Shoulder to shoulder • S13
Keep a small promise

More in the Toolkit: 5 • Build & Host

Priya Parker, *The Art of Gathering* (2018); Peter Block, *Community* (2008); the Men’s Sheds movement. Full Gathering Design Card in Building New Relationships After Retirement.

WhyzMen • Rewire Retirement • Card E5 • r1 • Optional • handed out at Session 10

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