

How might I foster Christian community in my workplace that can positively impact my company?

First, I invite you to cover this in prayer and seek prayer from other believers, including (perhaps especially) your pastor. Here are some things to consider praying for:

- A. Discipline in putting on the full armor of God daily, remaining in Him and in the strength of His mighty power (Ephesians 6:10-12). Expect to encounter spiritual warfare and discouragement; but more importantly expect and claim victory over the enemy's schemes in Jesus' name!
- B. That others may see Jesus in and through your daily work (that is, the work you technically get paid to do) as the quality of your service is part of your testimony in your workplace
- C. That at least 1 other Christian co-worker will come alongside you in this endeavor; that the 2 or more of you may grow in your love for one another; and that you may have unity
- D. That God may reveal to you and your co-leaders His vision for this workplace ministry group
 - Possible purpose statements (avoid "Christianese")
 - Strengthen community and sense of belonging amongst Christians in the company to support employee satisfaction and retention
 - Strengthen culture of inclusion in the workplace through educational programs
 - Provide leadership development opportunities to support employee professional growth and development
 - Support business objectives and values
 - Possible structures
 - Informal employee-led Christian community group that receives no formal company support or oversight
 - Informal employee-led interfaith community group (e.g., employees of all faiths volunteer to host get-togethers and events together to educate on another on their traditions)
 - Formal Christian employee resource group recognized by the company as a sponsored program (e.g., [American Express SALT](#))
 - Formal interfaith employee resource group (e.g., [Faith Force at Salesforce](#))

Second, start praying and meeting with other Christian co-workers who are interested in the idea.

Discuss what you're each hearing from God. Additionally, do some due diligence together: ask other companies in your area how they got started; connect with local faith and work ministry groups; review your internal policies; know the values / needs of your company; meet with existing formal ERG leaders and ask how they got started as well as pros / cons of being an official vs. informal group.

Third, launch an informal program that's open to all employees, get feedback and evaluate if you're ready to pursue the formal process. Some ideas: invite a guest speaker; host a casual lunch Bible discussion group on a relevant faith and work topic; host panel discussion on faith and work with leaders of the company as speakers; host a Christmas celebration; organize a community service event. It's often best not to try to become an "official" employee resource group until you've had at least 1 informal program and gained the trust of key stakeholders across your company.

Ready to start the formal employee resource group process? Check out [Cornerstone Inclusion](#)

Want to plug into Bay Area Faith & Work events? Check out [Faith & Work Movement](#)

Have other questions on exploring faith and work? Reach out to [Christeen Rico](#)