

Hybrid Alpha 101 (Online and In-Person)



A hybrid Alpha enables people to choose between an in-person or virtual gathering while welcoming all guests into an atmosphere that is genuine, welcoming, and authentic.

What Does a Hybrid Alpha Look Like?

At the Venue:	Online:
Alpha team is ready to meet, greet, and register guests	Online host(s) invite guests in from the virtual waiting room
A meal is provided around casual conversation	Online participants eat together virtually around casual conversation or do an ice-breaker game in lieu of a meal
An MC takes the stage, welcomes guests to Alpha, and gives an explanation of the session ahead	Live MC is streamed for online participants
The video is queued up and the group watches together via projector, laptop, or shared screen	
After the video is discussion in small groups	After the video is discussion in the main room or breakout rooms

1. Gather the majority of the guests together at a central location with a few small groups offered online. There would be moments for guests to interact with each other regardless of location, and meals could even be dropped off or delivered for those not able to gather.

2. Shift the ratio in the other direction with most of the guests connecting virtually and a few small groups choosing to meet together—either at a venue or in homes—casting the live stream to a TV and joining in from the same location.

Benefits of Hybrid Alpha

Accessibility

- There is room for guests to transition between aspects of the experience. If someone can't make it in-person one week, they can switch to an online group. It is best to keep at least one of the virtual groups transient to allow for this.
- There may be those who are uncomfortable joining Alpha in-person right away. This would allow them to test drive the experience from home and join in as they are comfortable.

Connection

- Past experiences with Alpha, regardless of context, begin to merge together.

Ministry

- Online and in-person ministry moments become normalized and extend to other ministries in the church.

Invitation

- Moments like the Launch, Weekend, Healing, and Post-Alpha celebration could be done cohesively across all of the small groups, creating touchpoints and on-ramps for guests to begin attending the church.