



INCLUDE (WEEK 1) SMALL GROUPS—FRIENDSHIPS

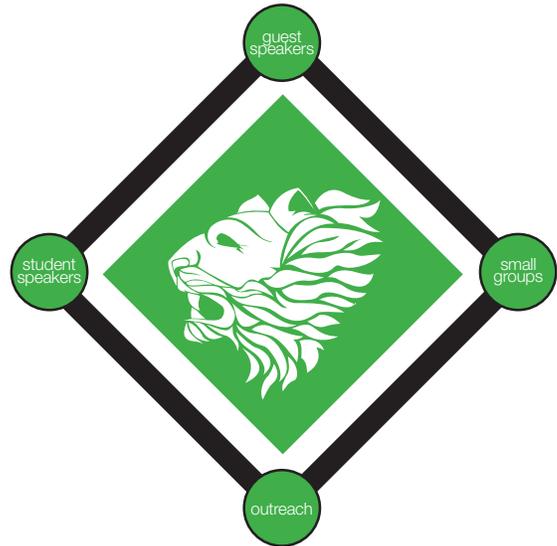
Purpose: To teach students what a true friend is.

YOU WILL NEED:

- Refreshments
- Survey questions

SAMPLE MEETING AGENDA

1. Pre-meeting prayer
2. Welcome and attendance
3. Announcements
 - Inspire week's speaker
 - Invest week's outreach
 - Outreach assignments to club members (hang up posters, invite friends, etc.)
4. Icebreaker: "Survey of Commonality"
5. Biblical support and application
6. Discussion
7. Prayer/dismiss



ICEBREAKER: "SURVEY OF COMMONALITY"

Develop a list of questions to give each student. Have each student pick a partner and go through the list of questions to see how much they have in common. Some sample questions include: What is your favorite sport or favorite movie? If you had a million dollars and could only buy one thing, what would it be? Be creative and fun in making up the questions. Then identify the people who had the most in common and least in common. Show that commonality isn't always the basis for friendship.

BIBLE SUPPORT AND APPLICATION:

Read Mark 2:1-12. Highlight the how much this man's friends were willing to go through for him.

DISCUSSION:

Divide into groups of three to five students and ask them to discuss the following questions. You may want to select a facilitator for each group to keep the discussion moving. You may also wish to provide each facilitator or group with a list of the questions and comments to be discussed.

1. Read Mark 2:1-12 aloud.
2. What did this man's friends do for him?



3. What are some things you can do to help your friends?
4. Is it easier to be a friend when times are easy, or when they are rough?
5. Pray that you will be a better friend.

If time allows, answer the following questions in your small groups.

1. What can you apply from today's discussion to your life?
2. Do you have daily time alone with God in prayer and His Word?
3. What have you learned from God's Word this week?
4. Did you attend church or youth service this past week?
5. What did you learn from the message/lesson?

PRAYER/DISMISS





INSPIRE (WEEK 2) GUEST SPEAKER—FRIENDSHIP

Purpose: To inspire students toward Godly friendships.

BEFORE THE MEETING:

- Invite the speaker at least two weeks in advance and give him/her the topic: friendship.
- Instruct the speaker how and when to wrap up his/her time.
- Inform the speaker of the time, day and location of the club
- Select a student to meet the speaker at the office, help him/her sign in as a visitor and take him/her to the meeting room.
- Select a student to introduce the speaker. You will need to get background information prior to the meeting. Give the information to the student who will introduce the speaker.
- Contact your guest speaker again a day or two before the meeting to confirm everything. (This is also a good time to verify your facts for the introduction.)
- Remember the goal is to motivate students, not to share denominational issues.

YOU WILL NEED:

- Speaker (teacher, Christian counselor, youth pastor, senior pastor or other Christian leader)
- Refreshments

SAMPLE MEETING AGENDA

1. Pre-meeting prayer
2. Welcome and attendance
3. Announcements
 - Invest week's outreach
 - Follow up on or assign outreach assignments
4. Introduce speaker
5. Guest speaker
6. Prayer/dismiss



SAMPLE GUEST SPEAKER OUTLINE: FRIENDSHIP

1. Pitfalls—Common mistakes and misunderstandings that happen in friendships
2. Pains—The hurt and difficult times friends go through
3. Product—The result of a Godly friendship taking place in someone's situation

SUGGESTION:

Send a thank you card to your speaker as soon as possible after the meeting.



INVOLVE (WEEK 3) STUDENT SPEAKERS—FRIENDSHIP

Purpose: To share the importance of a godly friend in your life.

BEFORE THE MEETING:

- Ask two to three students to be prepared to speak using the outline on the next page or develop an outline of their own that features the subject of friendship.
- Have a youth pastor review the testimonies and if necessary give instruction or suggestions.

YOU WILL NEED:

- Refreshments

SAMPLE MEETING AGENDA

1. Pre-meeting prayer (leaders and speakers)
2. Welcome and attendance
3. Announcements
 - Invest week's outreach event
 - Follow up on or assign outreach assignments
4. Introduce student speakers (name and grade)
5. Student speakers
6. Questions and answers
7. Prayer/dismiss



SAMPLE STUDENT SPEAKERS OUTLINE

Student 1: Share your true, personal testimony as to how you became a Christian and the friendships that influenced and opened the door for you. The testimony should be approximately five minutes in length.

Student 2: Share how you presents the Gospel to his/her friends. Talk about the role that Christ plays in your friendships.

Student 3: Tell how godly friendships among the Youth Alive members allow the campus to see Christ in you. Read John 13:34-35. We are known by the way we treat each other and the love we have for our friends.

PRAYER/DISMISS:

Spend at least five minutes in prayer. Announce next week's speaker. Challenge the group to bring friends who are going through a challenging time to Invest next week (e.g., students whose families are in crisis, students who have problems in school, struggling with life, etc.).



INVEST (WEEK 4) OUTREACH EVENT—FRIENDSHIP

Purpose: To invest in students' lives and share the message that Jesus wants to be their best friend.

BEFORE THE MEETING:

- Think of ways to make Youth Alive appealing to your non-Christian friends.
- Secure the speaker at least two weeks in advance. Inform the speaker of the following:
 1. Be prepared to ask the students to respond to the message and receive Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord
 2. Speak confidently: Clearly and energetically tell everyone about Jesus, then lead those who are willing in a prayer of repentance and confession of faith.
 3. Keep in mind the purpose for the week. Response cards will be given out.
 4. This should not be a story of your church but of the Lord who wants a relationship with each person.
 5. Don't use religious terms such as "sanctified" or "redeemed." Visitors who have never been to church do not understand the lingo.
 6. Stay away from abstract, hard to define concepts and stick to the practical. What is applicable?
 7. Allow enough time at the end to pass out and collect response cards.
- Select members to be responsible for distributing and collecting response cards. Give them clear instruction as to when and how this should happen.
- Plan for effective follow-up. Students who bring friends should follow up with them concerning a commitment to Jesus, to answer questions, involve them in a local church, and bring them back next week for Include week's small groups.



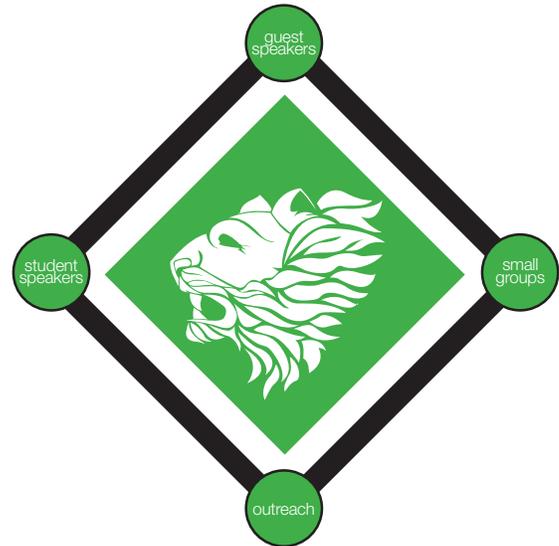
YOU WILL NEED:

1. Food—Ask a church to sponsor the cost as an evangelistic investment.
2. Response cards and pens
3. Large puzzle pieces and tape
4. Prizes for winners—money, free food coupons



SAMPLE MEETING AGENDA

1. Pre-meeting prayer
2. Welcome and attendance
3. Announcements (limit to date, time, and location of next meeting)
4. Icebreaker: Puzzle Madness
5. Introduce speaker
6. Student testimony/gospel presentation
7. Invitation, prayer, response cards
8. Dismiss/initial follow-up



ICEBREAKER: "PUZZLE MADNESS"

Prior to the meeting, divide up three to four different puzzles that have large pieces. Spread them out and tape one piece under each chair. When the music starts everyone will look under their chair and take their puzzle piece and try to find their group. The first team to have all of their pieces and the puzzle put together wins. (Suggestion: Show the pictures of the puzzles to everyone if they're having trouble.)

STUDENT TESTIMONY/GOSPEL PRESENTATION:

The speaker should share a simple gospel message. They can tell they came to know Jesus. Why He came to this earth, His sinless life, death for our sins, and resurrection.

PRAYER/DISMISS

End with an invitation for students to accept Jesus in their lives. Pray. Hand out and collect response cards.