



INNING TOPIC: REMEMBERING THE WHY

Purpose: To establish a solid foundation and purpose for the Youth Alive club.

GOALS

- Train and remind club members of the purpose of your campus ministry efforts.
- Present the message of hope, Jesus Christ, to every student before he/she graduates. Your goal is not that everyone in your school belongs to your club, but that every student hears a clear presentation of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

INCLUDE (WEEK 1) SMALL GROUPS—REMEMBERING THE WHY

Purpose: To include every student as a part of the club and to reinforce the purpose for the club from the beginning—to present the message of hope, Jesus Christ, to every student before he/she graduates.

BEFORE THE MEETING

- Read some of the following passages on evangelism for background purposes: Matthew 28:16-20; Mark 12:28-31; 1 Thessalonians 2:8.

YOU WILL NEED:

- A Youth Alive meeting poster
- Supplies for Icebreaker: Paper Wad Toss
 1. Three pieces of paper per person
 2. One trash can per team
- Paper and pens
- Refreshments

SAMPLE MEETING AGENDA

1. Pre-meeting prayer
2. Welcome and attendance
3. Announcements
 - Speaker for “Inspire” week
 - Speaker for “Invest” week
 - Outreach assignments to club members (hang up posters, invite friends, etc.)
4. Icebreaker: “Paper Wad Toss”
5. Discussion
6. Prayer/Dismiss





ICEBREAKER: "PAPER WAD TOSS"

The object of the game is very simple. Divide into teams of 8-10 members. Each team member is given three sheets of paper. Have them wad each piece of paper into a ball. Place a garbage can ten feet away from each team. The team that can score the most wads in its trash can is the winner.

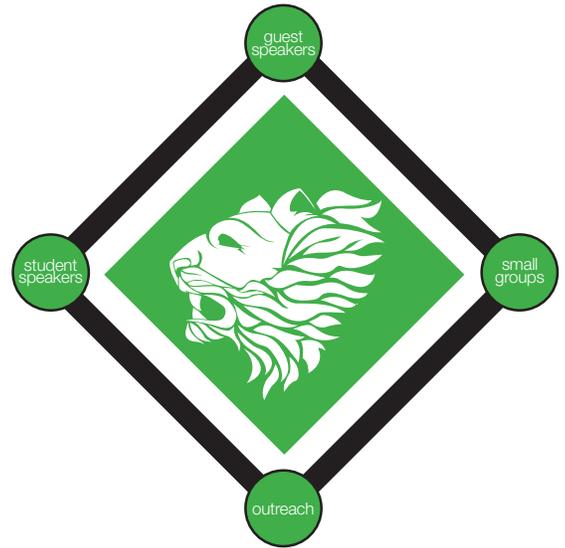
INTRODUCTION

One thing that helped the members of today's winning team was their ability to aim for their goal. Obviously they were successful—they won! We want our club to be successful. The central purpose and reason why this club exists in our school is so we can share Christ's hope with all our friends before they graduate.

DISCUSSION

Ask the students to divide into groups of three to five and 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 group with a list of the questions and comments to be discussed.

1. What are all the abilities that enabled the winning team to win the game today? (E.g., accurate aim, good release, etc.)
2. We want the members of this Youth Alive club to be great followers of Christ. Why do we need to meet together as Christian students?
3. What can this club provide? (E.g. accountability, encouragement, prayer, know more of God's Word, share Christ with others in our school, etc.)
4. One of the key abilities in winning the game today was the ability to aim (focus) on the basket. We must develop this ability in this Youth Alive club. We want to share the hope that Jesus Christ gives to every student before he or she graduates. We can't achieve this goal on our own; we must focus on our goal together. Why does our school need something more than a "Bible study"? (Our friends need to know Christ. If we don't tell them, who will?)
5. Jesus said that people know we are His disciples by our love for one another (John 13:34,35). How can we show our love for others as a club?
6. The main purpose for this club is to present the message of hope, Jesus Christ, to every student before he/she graduates. Who are five unsaved friends you can write down, pray for during this school year, and present Christ's hope to before the end of the school year?
7. How can you individually show Christ's love and hope to your list of five unsaved friends and others on a daily basis?





BIBLICAL SUPPORT AND APPLICATION:

In the Great Commission, Jesus gives us clear direction to go into the world and share His message of hope (Matthew 28:18-20). Who is our world? Our families, our neighborhoods, our schools—everywhere we go, we have opportunities to share His love. This is why we have a Youth Alive club. Our voices are stronger together than separate. We can sharpen and encourage each other to effectively share Christ's love throughout our school. This fulfills Jesus' Great Commission. We can do our part to win the world.

The Bible gives us good direction for how to do it. Mark 12:28-31 gives the beginning step on how to share our hope in Christ. (Read Mark 12:28-31.) Loving Christ with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength is to be practiced through our life. People want to know what makes the authentic Christian tick. The way we live our lives, despite all the ups and downs, gives credibility to our faith and gives us an open door to share our hope in Christ.

One last thought from God's Word today. (Read 1 Thessalonians 2:8.) This passage gives a clear example how to successfully influence our friends in Christ. We should be excited about our hope in Christ and should gain much joy in sharing our hope with others. Everything is built on developing relationships. It is through relationships that we can influence our friends. Together, our influence can build a better school through Jesus' message of hope.

Let's reach our campus. We can begin with the five names we each listed today. Put your list in a place where you will remember to pray for your five friends. Look for opportunities to share Christ's love and hope with them this year!

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—REMEMBERING THE WHY

Purpose: Through this session, an influential guest should bring inspiration to the members regarding your club mission. Often your guest speaker will convey added clarity to the monthly theme and its goal for your group. Let him/her inspire you to new heights in God and in outreach to others.

BEFORE THE MEETING

- Schedule a special speaker to speak on the topic of "Remembering the Why." You should consider your district Youth Alive director (call the national Youth Alive office at 1.800.545.2766 for contact information), a sponsoring youth pastor, or another sponsoring Christian leader as one of your first guest speakers.
- Contact your speaker again one week before the meeting to confirm the topic, time, date, and location of the Youth Alive club meeting. Also, verify the visitor check-in procedures, and where to park, etc., with the school office, if necessary.



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
 - Outreach for "Invest" week
 - Follow-up on or assign outreach assignments
 - Other
4. Introduce speaker
5. Guest speaker*
6. Prayer/Dismiss



ICEBREAKER

In order to give your guest speaker as much time as possible, we recommend you don't include an icebreaker for this week. However, if time allows, a human video or short drama could be effective. The presentation should be inspirational and based around the theme for the meeting.

*POTENTIAL GUEST SPEAKER TOPICS:

Any of the following could serve as a great topic for your Youth Alive club for this month.

- The Great Commission
- Viewing Your Campus as a Mission Field—Becoming Campus Missionaries
- Developing a Passion for the Lost
- Soul Winning and Evangelism

PLANNING TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL CLUB MEETING

1. Decide on your speaker. Your first guest speaker should be a youth pastor, youth leader, or responsible adult who works with your club and is informed of your club's evangelistic purpose. Try contacting your district Youth Alive director about being your first guest speaker.
2. Call and invite your guest speaker several weeks in advance.
3. Inform your speaker of the following:
 - Time limit (for example, fifteen minutes maximum)
 - Subject or topic
 - Location of meeting, directions to school, where to park, where to enter, and information about who will meet the speaker at the front door to direct him/her to the meeting place.
 - Many schools require a guest or outside speaker to fill out a form. If necessary, obtain the form from your school office.
 - Have a student meet the speaker at the school office. Sign him/her in and obtain a guest pass for your guest.
4. Obtain background information from your guest speaker in order to introduce him/her to your club.
5. Call to remind the guest speaker about the schedule one or two nights before the meeting.
6. After the club meeting, send a thank you card to the guest speaker.





INVOLVE (WEEK 3) STUDENT SPEAKERS—REMEMBERING THE WHY

Purpose: Several of the core student leaders should share their heart and passion to reach the lost of your school campus. In this meeting student leaders share their story of how and why they became involved with Youth Alive. They should include their personal vision for campus outreach.

BEFORE THE MEETING

- Write out the sentence for the Icebreaker: Party Line on a piece of paper and give to the leader to refer to at the club meeting.
- Prepare and develop student testimonies.

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
 - Other
4. Icebreaker: "Party Line"
5. Introduce student speakers (name and grade)
6. Student speakers
7. Questions and answers
8. Prayer/Dismiss



ICEBREAKER: "PARTY LINE"

Have the entire club form a circle. Have a core student leader whisper to the first person on his/her left this statement: "Samuel rode his red bike to school last Thursday." The person on his/her left repeats the statement to the next person, and this continues until you have gone completely around the circle. Each person should only whisper the statement once. Do not repeat it. The last person in the circle says out loud what was communicated to them from around the circle. Finally, the person who originated the statement will quote the statement. Note the changes from the beginning to the end.

The point: Use this to transition to the core student leaders' testimonies. Most often, a story changes as it passes from person to person. If you want to hear the real story, get it from the person with whom it began.



STUDENT SPEAKER TESTIMONIES

We want you to hear the reasons this club exists from the leadership of the club. The future of Youth Alive is exciting. (Note: It is not necessary to have two or more leaders share. One testimony may be sufficient.)

1. Introduce the first student leader. Have him/her give his/her name, grade, and how long he/she has been a Christian. Have the student share the following:
 - Tell how this Youth Alive club started or how he/she got involved.
 - Share the mission statement for the Youth Alive club. (This club exists to clearly share the gospel of Jesus Christ to every student before graduation.)
 - Share any future dreams and desires he/she has for this club.
2. Introduce the second student leader. Have the student give his/her name, grade, and how long he/she has been a Christian. Have the student leader share his/her version of the same points above.
3. Take time for the club to ask the student speakers questions.

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, students who are struggling with life, etc.).





INVEST (WEEK 4) OUTREACH EVENT—REMEMBERING THE WHY

Purpose: To share the message of hope, Jesus Christ, on our mission field—the campus. The authentic Christian witness builds life and hope on the campus—student to student.

BEFORE THE MEETING

- Provide the person who directs the icebreaker with a copy of “The Slogan Challenge.”
- Ask a church to sponsor the cost for refreshments and food as an evangelistic investment.
- If possible, obtain some small prizes to give to the winning team of the icebreaker (e.g., gift cards or coupons for free food, etc.).

YOU WILL NEED:

- Food (e.g., pizza, burgers)
- Response cards and pens
- Large puzzle pieces and tape
- Prizes for winners (e.g., gift cards or coupons for free food, etc.)

SAMPLE MEETING AGENDA

1. Pre-meeting prayer
2. Welcome and attendance
3. Announcements (limit to date, time, and location of next meeting)
4. Icebreaker: “The Slogan Challenge”
5. Introduce student speaker
6. Student testimony/Gospel presentation
7. Invitation, prayer, response cards
8. Dismiss/Initial follow-up



ICEBREAKER: “THE SLOGAN CHALLENGE”

Divide into teams of 7-8 players. Try to guess the company name as its slogan is read aloud. The first player to raise his/her hand and correctly answer the company’s name will receive a point for his/her team. The team with the most points wins. For prizes, you could give away candy bars, sodas, or coupons for free stuff.

Slogan

1. It keeps going and going and going
2. Good to the last drop
3. Just Do It

Company/Product

1. Energizer Batteries/Bunny
2. Maxwell House Coffee
3. Nike



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| 4. Have you driven a _____ lately? | 4. Ford |
| 5. Come see the softer side of _____. | 5. Sears |
| 6. Must see TV | 6. NBC |
| 7. Always Low Prices | 7. Wal-Mart |
| 8. Drivers Wanted | 8. Volkswagon |
| 9. It's the Cola | 9. Pepsi |
| 10. It's everywhere you want to be | 10. Visa |
| 11. Think Different | 11. Apple Computers |
| 12. Always | 12. Coca-Cola |

STUDENT TESTIMONY/GOSPEL PRESENTATION

Introduction

You may have asked yourself, "Why am I here? Why did they invite me to this club meeting?" I want to share with you the greatest decision that I ever made, and why this club is on our school campus.

Testimony

Share your personal story of hope in Jesus Christ. Spend some time practicing it beforehand. Make it personal. Consider the students in your audience and their struggles. Perhaps the following personal evangelism outline will help you in your preparation.

Their Story—

"My dear brothers and sisters, be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry" (James 1:19, New Living Translation [NLT]).

Listen first. No one cares about what you think; they care about what they think. Listen to their story because you care. Also, listen so you can connect your story to their story. Here are the important parts:

- What are their lives like now?
- How could they meet Christ?
- What would their lives be like if they followed Christ?

Your Story—

"And they have defeated him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of their testimony" (Revelation 12:11, NLT).

Your testimony is very powerful when sharing your faith. No one can argue with how Christ has affected your life. You simply tell what you know. Here are the important parts:

- Describe what your life was like before you met Christ.
- Tell them how you became a Christian.
- Explain how things have changed, how your life is different.



His Story—

“I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead” (Philippians 3:10,11, NIV).

The life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ is the most important turning point in history—no question. Here are the important parts:

- Jesus’ life—Share what Jesus taught, the way He interacted with people, and some of His experiences.
- His death—Talk about how Jesus died, His choice to die, and His sacrifice for us.
- His purpose—Explain what His sacrifice means to us—our forgiveness and our re-connection to God.

INVITATION/PRAYER

Everyone can receive God’s hope for his/her life. Let this prayer be your guide. (Ask everyone to pray this prayer with you.)

“Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner and need Your forgiveness. I believe You died on the cross and rose again from the dead in order that I might receive eternal life. I turn from my sin and ask for Your forgiveness. I invite You to be my Savior and Lord. Thank You for hearing my prayer and giving me Your gift of eternal life and hope. In Jesus’ name, I pray. Amen.

DISMISS/FOLLOW UP

Before dismissing, have the students indicate if they prayed to accept or rededicate their life to Christ. The club needs this identifying moment. It is vital you identify those who make a decision for Christ so they can be encouraged, assisted, and disciplined.

