

PREPARE WEEK "THE CONVERSATION WITH GOD"



Prepare Week

Preparing your story of receiving the Gospel.

Understand the value of your faith story and **practice** sharing it.



Promo:

Remember to invite people.



Welcome:

Remember to create a welcoming environment.



Host

"Welcome to First Priority, we are glad you are here! This week is Prepare Week, so our goal is to hear faith stories about how others came to know Christ and get insight about how we tell our own story. Let's kick things off in prayer."



Pray

Say something like: "Today, my friend, _____, is going to share about how they came to know Christ. It takes a lot of courage to stand up front and talk about Jesus, so please be respectful and listen as they share."

Student Faith Stories

Student Story #1 _____

Student Story #2 _____

Say something like: "Thank you for sharing, _____. Now let's take a minute to share some positive feedback about how they did. Also, feel free to ask them questions about their story."

Hand Out Faith Story Sheets

Today we are going to pass out a worksheet called "Your Faith Story". We are going to read aloud each step, explain, and give examples about how to create each part of your story. Please write down each part of your story and turn it in to a Student Leader. Please let a Student Leader know if you would like to share your story this year.

Create space to hand out "Your Faith Story" sheet and provide time to work on it.



Announcements

We are thankful for our speakers sharing today and really happy that you are here! Next week is Engage Week so invite as many people as you can to come and hear the Good News of Jesus.



Pray



Follow-Up

Be available to talk or pray with people.
Ask how you can walk with them on their Jesus journey.



Leader Tip

Take time to help the person sharing their faith story prepare and practice well.



YOUR FAITH STORY

Your story is one of the most important tools you have been given by God to share the Gospel with the world around you! The most powerful part of a testimony is explaining the "WHY" behind your decision to follow Christ. Before sharing your story for the first time, make sure to write it down, practice out loud, and pray that God would use your story as you share it!

1. START WITH A KEYWORD

The first step in writing down your faith story is choosing what keywords describe your life before Christ. Below is a list of emotions. Circle two or three that adequately describe how you felt as a result of a problem you faced without Christ in your life. You are not limited to this list, so feel free to choose a keyword of your own! This part helps keep your story compelling and on track.

alienated	depressed	hopeless	uncertain
alone	distrusting	hurt	unforgiving
angry	doubtful	insecure	unloved
apathetic	fearful	lonely	worthless
ashamed	frustrated	lost	
bitter	guilty	prideful	
confused	heartbroken	rejected	

2. SET UP THE BACKGROUND

Now describe the situation in which you came to face this problem and why your keyword describes the way you felt. It is more important to be honest than dramatic. This helps people to relate with your story personally and understand why we need God in our lives. If you need more space, continue on the back.

3. SHARE HOW JESUS ENTERED YOUR STORY

Now describe how you came to know Jesus. Be sure to describe that moment (or that process) if you can with adjectives that show how meaningful and impactful it was for you. Try to describe how Jesus touched your heart, and how you responded (such as asking Him to be your Lord and Savior). This part challenges people's idea of what God is like.

4. STATE THE IMPACT OF CHRIST ON YOUR LIFE

Now describe how Christ impacted your problem and your life. Use the emotion opposite of your keyword and share how Christ either reversed your problem or is continually giving you the power to overcome. This is the part that inspires your hearers to place their hope in Christ.



Disciple Tip

You are a living witness that Jesus is alive.