



FIRST PRIORITY
HOPE WEEKLY GUIDE

CHOOSE JESUS



PLANNING GUIDE

Plan To Win

HELP WEEK

 PROMO: _____

 WELCOME: _____

 HOST: _____

 SPEAKER: _____

 FOLLOW UP: _____

OVERCOME WEEK

 PROMO: _____

 WELCOME: _____

 HOST: _____

 SPEAKER: _____

 FOLLOW UP: _____

PREPARE WEEK

 PROMO: _____

 WELCOME: _____

 HOST: _____

 SPEAKER: _____

 FOLLOW UP: _____

ENGAGE WEEK

 PROMO: _____

 WELCOME: _____

 HOST: _____

 SPEAKER: _____

 FOLLOW UP: _____

NOTES

HELP WEEK

CHOOSE JESUS



Helping each other believe and share the Good News of Jesus.



HOST

PART 1 - STARTING THE CLUB

“Welcome to First Priority. We are glad you are here! This school year we will be talking about the choices we make every day and how they affect not only us but the people around us. This month we will focus on what it looks like to Choose Jesus, the greatest choice we can ever make. Let’s start things off with prayer.”

OPENING PRAYER

INTRODUCE SPEAKER: “Today my friend _____ is going to talk about how to choose Jesus and use a new help tool that will walk us through it.”



SPEAKER

PART 2 - HELP WEEK DISCUSSION

- Look over the Help Week Discussion and Help Tool to make sure you understand it.
- Read the Help Week Discussion.
- Then pass out the **Life/Death Cards**.
- **HELP TOOL:** Life/Death Cards



HOST

PART 3 - ENDING THE CLUB

SOCIAL MEDIA CHALLENGE for “H” Week

Speak the Truth

- Post this truth on your social media: I choose this day to serve the Lord! Joshua 24:15

ANNOUNCEMENTS

“Everyone remember to share the Good News of Jesus with someone this week. Next week is Overcome Week! Start thinking now about who you can invite to join you as we continue our theme Choose Jesus.”

CLOSING PRAYER

BEHIND THE SCENES



PROMO

Invite people and promote the club meeting.



WELCOME

Create a welcoming environment.



FOLLOW UP

Be available for anyone who would like to pray or talk more.



SPEAKER

HELP WEEK DISCUSSION

CHOOSE JESUS

HIGHLIGHT SCRIPTURE

“Now therefore fear the LORD and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.” **Joshua 24:14-15**

EXPLAIN

Who you are today determines who you will be tomorrow. If you want to be a better student, you have to decide today to study and put in the work. If you want to grow in your relationship with God, you have to decide today to spend time reading His Word, the Bible. So when we decide what we want to do with our lives, we have more control than we think.

In Joshua chapter 24 verse 14, Joshua gave Israel a challenge: “Now therefore fear the LORD and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD.” The decision was in their hands. God did not force Himself on anyone, but Joshua had already decided that he would follow and serve the Lord. In verse 15, Joshua gave them the choice: to serve the gods of their fathers or serve the Lord. You see, we do not need to convince people to serve the Lord. We have nothing to fear and everything to gain by presenting the options and giving our friends and family the right to make up their own minds.

Then Joshua made it personal at the end of verse 15: “But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.” At the end of the day, it comes down to this: YOU must choose to serve the Lord. It won’t happen by accident. You must begin each day by choosing to serve Him and then follow up that decision with a bunch of small choices in the right direction. If you follow Jesus, there will come a time when you must say, “Do what you want, and whatever you do, I will still be your friend, but I am going to serve the Lord.”

The request is clear: Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve. I pray you will make the right choice. As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

APPLY

Today’s Help Tool is the Life/Death card. Take the Life/Death card and begin with the word **Death** showing. Read the top of the card, “For the wages of sin is death”. Then flip the card clockwise to show the word **Life** and read the top of the card, “But the gift of God is eternal life.” Next, read the verses on the back as you continue to share the Gospel.

RESPOND

Let’s get into groups and practice the Help Tool, before we leave today. Pray for God to give you boldness to begin the conversation about Jesus with the world.

BIG IDEA TO REMEMBER

Decide today who you will be tomorrow and who you will serve.

HELP WEEK TOOL

CHOOSE JESUS

THE WAGES OF SIN IS



THE GIFT OF GOD IS ETERNAL

THE WAGES OF SIN IS



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THE GIFT OF GOD IS ETERNAL

OVERCOME WEEK

CHOOSE JESUS



Overcoming things that keep you from believing and sharing the Good News of Jesus.



HOST

PART 1 - STARTING THE CLUB

“Welcome to First Priority. We are glad you are here! Thank you for joining us for Overcome Week. Let’s kick things off with prayer.”

OPENING PRAYER

GAME OF CHOICES: WOULD YOU RATHER?

- Would you rather be covered in fur or covered in scales?
- Would you rather lose the ability to read or lose the ability to speak?
- Would you rather have free flights forever or never have to pay for food?
- Would you rather dance or sing to every song you hear?
- Would you rather only use a fork or only use a spoon?

INTRODUCE SPEAKER: “Last week we talked about what it means to choose Jesus. Today my friend _____ is going to talk about what we need to overcome to make Jesus first.”



SPEAKER

PART 2 - OVERCOME WEEK DISCUSSION

- Look over the Overcome Week Discussion page to make sure you understand it.
- Read Overcome Week Discussion.
- Then break into groups and discuss.



HOST

PART 3 - ENDING THE CLUB

SOCIAL MEDIA CHALLENGE for “O” Week

Offer a Question

- Post this question on your social media:
What has been one of the biggest choices you have ever made in your life?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

“Everyone remember to share the Good News of Jesus with someone this week. Next week is Prepare Week! Start thinking now about who you can invite.”

CLOSING PRAYER

BEHIND THE SCENES



PROMO

Invite people and promote the club meeting.



WELCOME

Create a welcoming environment.



FOLLOW UP

Be available for anyone who would like to pray or talk more.



SPEAKER

OVERCOME WEEK DISCUSSION

CHOOSE JESUS

HIGHLIGHT SCRIPTURE

“The young man said to him, ‘All these I have kept. What do I still lack?’ Jesus said to him, ‘If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.’” **Matthew 19:20-21**

EXPLAIN

We don’t usually think of ourselves as being rich. There are people with bigger houses, more money, and nicer stuff. There is a sense of security when we have everything we need. Instead of looking to God to find our worth, we look at our “stuff” for that.

In the Book of Matthew chapter 19, we read about a young guy who was very wealthy. We call him the rich young ruler. He asked Jesus what good deed he must do to have eternal life. Jesus told him to follow the commandments. The rich young ruler told Jesus that he already followed all of them but was still lacking something. Jesus then told him in verse 21, “If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” When the rich young ruler heard this, he went away sad.

What? Is Jesus asking us to sell all our stuff? Maybe. When Jesus told the young man to sell all his stuff, He was telling him to get rid of everything that he had that was more important to him than Jesus. He is asking us to do the same. Jesus wants us to let go of whatever takes our focus off Him, so we can follow Him.

Real JOY comes from following Jesus and allowing Him to work through us. Sometimes that means that we must OVERCOME the desire to focus on “stuff.” At the end of the day, it’s not about us, it’s about Him.

The story in Matthew goes on to say that the rich young ruler was very sad when he walked away from the conversation with Jesus. He was sad, because he was not willing to give up the things that he loved to follow Jesus. What about you? Are you willing to say yes to whatever He is asking you to do?

APPLY

What do you have to Overcome to make Jesus first in your life?
Pray that God gives you nudges when you start to take your eyes away from Him.

RESPOND

Let’s get in groups and discuss:

- How can you move Jesus up on your priority list?
- What are some things that you tend to focus on more than Jesus?

BIG IDEA TO REMEMBER

Life is full of tough choices. Choose today to follow Jesus.

PREPARE WEEK

CHOOSE JESUS



Preparing your story of believing the Good News of Jesus.



HOST

PART 1 - STARTING THE CLUB

“Welcome to First Priority. We are glad you are here! Thank you for joining us for Prepare Week. Let’s kick things off with prayer.”

OPENING PRAYER

GAME: If you have time, play a game to help everyone feel welcome.

INTRODUCE SPEAKER: “Last week we talked about what we need to overcome to make Jesus first. Today my friend _____ is going to share a creative way we can tell our faith story.”



SPEAKER

PART 2 - PREPARE WEEK EXERCISE

- Look over the Prepare Week Exercise page and make sure you understand it.
- Read the Prepare Week Exercise.
- Then pass out **The Hero of My Story** handout, and allow students time to write out their story.



HOST

PART 3 - ENDING THE CLUB

SOCIAL MEDIA CHALLENGE for “P” Week

Answer the question

- Post on social media your answer to the question you posted last week. Explain what has been one of the biggest choices you have had to make.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

“Don’t forget to share the Good News of Jesus with someone this week. Next week is Engage Week! Start thinking now about who you can invite to join you to hear the Good News of Jesus.”

CLOSING PRAYER

BEHIND THE SCENES



PROMO

Invite people and promote the club meeting.



WELCOME

Create a welcoming environment.



FOLLOW UP

Be available for anyone who would like to pray or talk more.



PREPARE WEEK EXERCISE

CHOOSE JESUS

SPEAKER

THE HERO OF MY STORY

Who is the hero of your faith story? For many of us, our faith story serves as a way of sharing some of the most important details in our lives that led to choosing to follow Jesus. If we are not careful, though, we can share too much about our own actions and not enough about Christ's. It is helpful to think of Jesus as the hero and main focus of our story, so that the Gospel is clearly presented when we share how it all happened. Romans chapter 5 verse 8 and Ephesians chapter 2 verse 8 tell us that salvation was started and finished by Christ, and our part in that is simply to receive or reject.

Romans chapter 5 verse 8 says, "but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Ephesians chapter 2 verse 8 says, "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast."

This doesn't mean that you are no longer in your story; it just means that Jesus is the focus! In order to show Jesus as the hero, describe in detail what God has done and limit describing your own actions to ways in which you responded to His work. This will help your listeners to understand that they too are invited by God to follow Him, and that they can respond to that invitation any time.

Redeemed: To be saved or rescued from sin and brokenness.

Below is a guide for writing out your faith story with Jesus as the hero.

1. My name is _____ and I am a follower of Jesus. Today, I'd like to share why.
2. I learned that all people need to be redeemed, because we are all broken by sin - not just in a physical way but in a spiritual way. Here is what I learned about sin and why it is a problem:
3. I realized I was lost and broken because:
4. God created all people and loves them dearly. He knows that they are broken and cannot fix themselves. That's why He sent Jesus. This is what Jesus did for me, so that I would not be separated from God:
5. When I understood all of this for the first time, I realized that I needed Jesus to redeem me. Not only that, but Jesus also invited me to know Him and to follow Him. The story of how I accepted God's offer of salvation went like this:
6. If you could see my life from my view today, you'd see two very different people, especially compared to what I was like before and after I started following Jesus. Here are some of the biggest things He has done in my life since He redeemed me:

PREPARE WEEK HANDOUT

CHOOSE JESUS

THE HERO OF MY STORY

Redeemed: To be saved or rescued from sin and brokenness.

Below is a guide for writing out your faith story with Jesus as the hero.

1. My name is _____ and I am a follower of Jesus. Today, I'd like to share why.

2. I learned that all people need to be redeemed, because we are all broken by sin - not just in a physical way but in a spiritual way. Here is what I learned about sin and why it is a problem:

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ENGAGE WEEK

CHOOSE JESUS



Engaging your school with the Good News of Jesus.



HOST

PART 1 - STARTING THE CLUB

“Welcome to First Priority. We are glad you are here! Thank you for joining us for Engage Week. Let’s kick things off with prayer.”

OPENING PRAYER

GAME: If you have time, play a game to help everyone feel welcome.

INTRODUCE SPEAKER: “Last week we talked about making Jesus the hero of our faith story and practiced writing out our faith story. Today my friend _____ is going to talk about the Good News of Jesus.”



SPEAKER

PART 2 - ENGAGE WEEK DISCUSSION

- Look over the Engage Week Discussion GOSPEL S.T.O.R.Y. to make sure you understand it.
- Read Engage Week Discussion. Then close in prayer.
- Next have the Host read the **Response Time** below.
- Pass out **Student Response Cards** to each student.



HOST

PART 3 - ENDING THE CLUB

RESPONSE TIME: (Pass out Student Response Cards)

“Everyone take a minute and think about what was just shared today. If you decided to begin a relationship with Jesus, then on your response card, check the first box. If you have questions or would like us to help you find a youth group to go to, check that box, and we would love to get you connected. Take a few minutes to fill out your card, and we will come around to collect them.”

SOCIAL MEDIA CHALLENGE “E” WEEK

Proclaim the Gospel

- Share the spoken word G.O.S.P.E.L. by Propaganda - <https://youtu.be/jyYFxp7apl4>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

“Thank you for coming. Join us next week for Help Week!”

CLOSING PRAYER

BEHIND THE SCENES



PROMO

Invite people and promote the club meeting.



WELCOME

Create a welcoming environment.



FOLLOW UP

Be available for anyone who would like to pray or talk more. Do the follow-up sheet and process.



SPEAKER

ENGAGE WEEK DISCUSSION

CHOOSE JESUS

GOSPEL S.T.O.R.Y.

SCRIPTURE. TRUE. OUR. REAL. YOU.

The word **Gospel** means **Good News**. It was used to announce good news about a new king. The good news told about the king’s message, actions, and victories. The Gospel of Jesus is found in the Bible. It is the Good News of who Jesus is and what He has done. The Gospel story also tells us who we are, why we are broken, and how Jesus is the King who gave His life to rescue us. We are invited to be a part of God’s story by trusting and following Jesus.

 SCRIPTURE tells us who Jesus is and what He has done.	If you are making a choice to trust and follow someone, you need to know who that person is. The Bible tells us the true story about who Jesus is and what He has done. Mark chapter 1 verse 1 tells us exactly who Jesus is: “The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.” Mark says clearly that Jesus is the Son of God. We can look to Jesus to know exactly what God is like. The entire story of the Bible is about how Jesus is coming to rescue people from sin, because He is the true King. But wait, why do we need Jesus to rescue us from our sins? Let me explain.
 TRUE identity begins with knowing that God created us.	The story began with God creating all things. He called everything that He made, good. He created humans to know Him and to represent Him on the earth (Genesis 1:27). God created you, knows you, and loves you more than you could ever imagine. He created you to love Him and other people. This is your true identity. Sadly, everything did not remain the way that God created it. Everything became broken.
 OUR lives are broken by sin.	The first humans that God created chose to turn away from Him. They broke their relationship with God. We have all chosen to live our own way, too. We have failed to fulfill God’s purpose for our lives to love Him and other people. This is called sin. The Bible says that we have all sinned and fall short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). Our lives and the world that we know are broken by sin. Because of this, we often feel distant and disconnected from God. We need someone to rescue us and reconnect us to God.
 REAL love is Jesus giving His life for ours.	Jesus came with a message of Good News. He was sent by God to rescue us and restore our relationship with God (Luke 19:10). Jesus never sinned. He perfectly loved God and all people. Jesus showed us real love by giving His life for our sins. He died and was buried, but on the third day, God raised Him from the dead. He was seen alive by over 500 people (1 Corinthians 15:3-6). He is the true King who rescued us by His love. We can now be forgiven, rescued, and reconnected to God.
 You are invited into God’s story.	There are many stories about who Jesus is and what He has done in the Bible. John chapter 20 verses 30 and 31 say, “Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” John says that the Gospel story was written, so that you would believe that Jesus is the Son of God, and you can have eternal life. You are invited into God’s story. This new life can begin by trusting and following Jesus.

If you would like to begin a relationship with God, I would like to invite you to pray with me.

PRAY: “God, I believe this Gospel story of Jesus. I know that I am broken. I ask you to forgive me of my sins. I want you to be the King of my life. I choose to trust and follow Jesus today and forever. Amen.”

(Pass out **Student Response Cards** while the Host shares **Response Time** from **Part 3**.)

STUDENT RESPONSE CARD

My response to the Gospel story today.
(Please only check one.)

- I began a relationship with Jesus today.
- I have questions about following Jesus.
- I am already a follower of Jesus.
- I am not interested.

I would like to get connected to a youth group.

Name _____

Phone # _____

What church do you attend? _____

Who invited you to FP today? _____

The information you put on this card will be given to a student leader to follow up with you. Your information will not be stored or given to anyone else.



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