

OVERCOME WEEK

CHOOSE LISTENING



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 stranded in the jungle or in the desert?
- Would you rather only be able to whisper or shout?
- Would you rather all your shirts be two sizes too big or one size too small?
- Would you rather wrestle a bear or wrestle an alligator?
- Would you rather lose the ability to speak or to hear?

INTRODUCE SPEAKER: “Last week we learned the story of Mary and Martha and about being still and listening. Today my friend _____ is going to talk about what we need to overcome, so we can listen better.”

LISTENING



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: Who do you listen to when you need advice or encouragement?

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 LISTENING

HIGHLIGHT SCRIPTURE

“Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom in the future.” **Proverbs 19:20**

EXPLAIN

Last week we learned the story of Mary and Martha and about being still and listening. Mary would listen well, while Martha stayed busy and missed out on what Jesus had to say. We have the same problem. We want to be heard. We want people to hear about our day or our experiences. Why is it so difficult for us to listen? We struggle with this, because we would rather speak our thoughts instead of listening to the thoughts of others.

Proverbs chapter 19 verse 20 tells us to “listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom in the future.” So listen to advice and take instruction. This verse describes the need for listening. It takes effort, patience, and being intentional. A lot of times we barely listen, because we are distracted by our surroundings. Instead of concentrating on what’s being said, we are busy deciding what to say in response or mentally rejecting the other person’s point of view.

Proverbs chapter 18 verse 2 says, “It is the fool who takes no pleasure in understanding, but only in expressing his opinion.” It means a lot to a person to be heard. When someone starts talking to you, they are inviting you to walk with them and go on a journey for a short time. Maybe it’s not your first choice of conversation, or maybe you are in a hurry and feel like you don’t have the time. Stop and take the time to invest in someone else’s story. Be an example of God’s love, and let His light shine through simply by listening.

The Bible says that Jesus was a friend of sinners. That’s our example—to be a friend, to listen to people, see where they are, and then take them where they need to go.

APPLY

Be ready whenever someone needs to talk. It might mean you have to give up a lunch or maybe a workout. God is asking us to represent Him to others, and God always listens to us.

RESPOND

Let’s get into groups and discuss these questions:

- Who is someone you listen to when you need advice?
- When you listen, are you listening to learn from them or waiting for a moment of silence so you can interject what you think?
- Share a time when NOT listening got you in trouble.

BIG IDEA TO REMEMBER

The best ministry you might do for someone today is to simply listen.

LISTENING