



# FRESH START

**MAIN POINT:** God is a God of second chances!

**SCRIPTURE:** 1 John 1:9, 2 Cor. 5:17

## START UP

### WELCOME (4 mins)

**SAY:** Welcome to the fifth Equip Week of the year! We are excited that each of you are here today, and excited to learn our Gospel tool that will help us share the Power of Jesus with our Friends. Our goal is to equip you with a tool that will help each of us effectively share our faith with our friends.

### OPENING PRAYER

**SAY:** God, thank you for this awesome day, thank you for this opportunity to learn how we can share our faith. God use this time to equip us with your truth. May we be willing to engage our friends with the Gospel. Thank you for all who are here with us today. May your Word penetrate our hearts today. We love you. In Jesus name we pray, Amen!

### GAME (8 mins) – Name 3

*You have 5 seconds to name 3 things in the category. Alternate turns between teams. You get one point for a turn when you name 3 things in that category within 5 seconds. Time does not start until the category is given. First team to 3 points wins.*

#### Categories:

- Name three fast food restaurants
- Name three fruits that are red
- Name three types of cars
- Name three board games
- Name three collage mascots
- Name three Disney princesses
- Name three types of candy bars
- Name three Starbucks drinks
- Name three types of fish

## TOOL TIME

**SAY:** Remember when you were a little kid playing video games with you friends, and as long as you didn't die in the video game, you could keep playing? When you died, it would then be someone else's turn. What happened? Inevitably you would die, but you didn't want to give up your turn. You would say, "REDO, let me try again, Restart!"

Everyone wants a restart when we fail. When we mess up, we want a second chance! The truth is, we mess up a lot if we are honest. We give in to temptation and ourselves asking God for a do-over. The good news is that God wants to do a fresh work in each of our lives.

**READ:** 1 John 1:9, "God is faithful to forgive us of our sin"

- God wants to take our sin filled life and make it into something new.

**READ:** 2 Corinthians 5:17, "When we put our trust in Jesus, we become a new creation. The old is gone and all things have become new!"

**SAY:** It is not that we are now something different, or that we start over as a baby, but rather in Christ, we are given another shot at life. Another shot at doing the right thing! God wants to give each of us a fresh start in Him. No matter what you have done, God loves you, and wants to give you Life in Him.

So many students buy into the lie that God could not or would not love them because of what they have done in their life.

The good news is that God is a God of second chances.

No matter what you have messed up on, God can and will forgive us, when we truly repent for what we have done.

Don't misunderstand: there are still consequences for the

*Tool Time continued*

choices we make, but God will still love us in the midst of our mistakes and will forgive us if we ask Him.

**ASK:**

Could today be a fresh start for you in your relationship with Jesus?

Would you ask God for a do-over so you can live out your faith on your campus each day?

**PRACTICE**

*Break into small groups and facilitate the following discussion:*

- What are areas in our lives we ask for do-overs?
- When you know you will be given a second chance, do you do things differently?
- When is the best time to start over?
  - Today!!!
  - Today is the best time to start over for Christ.
  - Knowing God loved us so much that he sent his Son to die on the cross for us, how does that affect how we live our lives?
  - How should it affect our lives?
- God demonstrated the greatest act of love by giving his Son to pay the penalty we deserved just to give us a fresh start.
  - How can we make the most of this second chance?
  - List some things we could do to make the most of our fresh start?

**DIG IN**

*List the four icons of the “4” and describe their meanings!*

- **Heart** – God loves us and wants a relationship with us!
- **Divide sign** – sin has divided us and separates us from God!
- **Cross** – God sent Jesus to pay our penalty for us by dying the death we deserved on the cross!
- **Question mark** – have you trusted Jesus as your personal Savior?

*Now instruct the students to spend some time describing these icons using their own testimony!*

**PRAYER TIME**

*Take a couple of minutes to allow students to give different prayer requests! Spend a few minutes praying for those requests.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS (2 mins)**

*Use this time to make any announcements about the upcoming weeks.*



## A NEW HEART

**MAIN POINT:** God wants to soften your heart of stone!

**SUPPLIES NEEDED:** Number list for the game! (See explanation), Invite Cards, Prayer Cards, Invite Week Planning Guide

**SCRIPTURE:** Ezekiel 36:26-27

### START UP

#### WELCOME (4 mins)

**SAY:** What's up? Welcome to First Priority! We are excited you are here today. This is our Prepare Week, so we will be preparing for several things:

- Preparing our testimonies!
- Preparing for our Invite Week
- Preparing to share our faith with our friends.

Before we jump into these things, let's have someone open us up in prayer and then play a game!

#### OPENING PRAYER

**SAY:** God, thanks for all these who are here today, may we not only have fun but may we prepare well for the weeks to come. May you use us to help expand your kingdom. Bless our time together today. In Jesus name, Amen!

#### GAME (8 mins) – Line Up

*First team to line up in the correct order*

- Number the students 1-9 on a team.
- Call out random numbers.
- The team to correctly line up in order gets a point.

*Examples:*

- 2431
- 785
- 42765381
- 1345678

### TOOL TIME

**READ:** Ezekiel 36:26-27

**SAY:** God wanted to give Israel a new start, a new heart, one that is not hard like stone.

**ASK:**

- How does it make you feel that God forgives us?
- What are some things that turn our hearts into stone?

**SAY:** When we put our faith in Christ, we become a new creation in Christ and we get a fresh start.

**ASK:** What are some areas in which we might need a fresh start?

**SAY:** When we ask God to forgive us, we are told that God doesn't just cover over our sin, rather he removes our sin, completely takes it away. That's great news for us. We are now made right before God. Knowing we have a fresh start, what can we do for God with our second chance?

#### PLAN

##### Invite cards / social media

- Pass out the club Invite cards. Now have everyone in the club help write down the correct day, time, and meeting location for next week's Invite Week.
- Encourage each student to invite at least 3 friends for next week.

##### Prayer Cards

- Write down the names of our friends we need to know about the love of Christ!
- Spend some time praying for those by name!

*Tool Time continued*

## Social Media

- *Take a moment to encourage students to invite everyone to First Priority through their social media accounts!*

## PRACTICE

### Testimony / Tool

**INSTRUCT:** Find a partner and take turns sharing your testimony with each other.

Testimony =

- Life before Christ
- Coming to know Christ
- Life after Christ

## DIG IN

### INVITE WEEK PLANNING

**SAY:** Leaders are always preparing others to lead. This week, who can be part of what we are doing? Look for other students who can help fill in areas of the club. First Priority will only be as good and exciting as you make it. Let's plan well so others can hear about Jesus.

Areas of help:

- Social media posts
- Remind app
- Music
- Greeters
- Games
- Sign holders
- Devotion leaders
- Small group leaders
- Prayer leaders.
- Who is speaking for Invite Week?

### PRAYER

*Spend time praying for friends and INVITE WEEK!*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS *(2 mins)*

*Anything that pertains to your club before Invite Week.*



# THE VEIL

**MAIN POINT:** Sin Separates us from God!

**SUPPLIES NEEDED:** A flashlight / Cell Phone, A black sheet of construction paper

**SCRIPTURE:** John 3:16

## START UP

### WELCOME (4 mins)

**SAY:** How is everyone? We are so glad that you are here with us today! We are super excited because today is not just a normal First Priority club, today is a special day, because it is our Invite Week! Hopefully, someone invited you to join us today! We are so glad that you are here, and we are ready to get things rolling! Let's open with prayer today!

### OPENING PRAYER

**SAY:** Father, thank you for this awesome day. Thank you for all of these students who are here for our special Invite Week! Father, I pray that you go before us today, and you fill this room with your presence! We love you God! In Jesus Name I pray, AMEN!

### GAME (8 mins) – Finger Grab Elimination

*Have everyone form a circle in the room. The game is simple, your goal is to grab the finger of the person to your left while, not allowing your finger on your right hand to be grabbed!*

Set up:

- Form a circle
- Take your left hand and hold it at a 90-degree angle with your hand open flat.
- Take your right hand and place your pointer finger into the center of the persons hand next to you.
- Have the mentor or teacher set the game in motion.
  - When the teacher says "go," the object is to grab the finger of your opponent with your left hand and remove your right-hand finger from the person on your right.
  - If your finger is grabbed, you must sit down.
  - If you grab the finger of the person on your left, they are out.
  - Continue to shrink the circle until there is only one person left.

## TOOL TIME

Spend a second introducing your Invite Week speaker!

### GOSPEL PRESENTATION

**SAY:** Whether we realize it or not, we are all separated from God. There is a barrier between us. The Bible says that the barrier is like a veil. In the same way a veil covers the beauty of a bride on her wedding day, this barrier, this veil, separates us from the glorious Light of God. Sin is that barrier! It's our sin, our pride, our selfishness that separates us.

- We are all sinners – Romans 3:23
- Sin costs a price – Romans 6:23
- There we were in the dark lonely place, BUT GOD!
- Rich in mercy and full of love, like a desperate father looking for a runaway child. He came after us. He so desperately wanted that barrier to be broken, for that veil to be torn down.
- Whatever the cost, whatever the price, He was willing to pay it. That price was His Son!
- God loved us – John 3:16

And His Son took the pain and the punishment upon his own back. He allowed the nails of our sin into his hands and into his feet. He hung on a cross and just like us he was all alone in the darkness. But what seemed to be a shocking defeat was instead the greatest act of love we've ever seen!

*Tool Time continued*

• The moment He died was the same moment the barrier was destroyed. The veil that separated us from God was at last torn wide open. When it was all said and done Jesus destroyed the barrier so we can have a personal relationship with God.

Would you trust Jesus today?

### DIG IN

#### RESPONSE TIME

**SAY:** If you have not trusted Jesus as your Savior, but today you would like to, we want you to have that opportunity!

*Give students a time to respond to the Gospel they just heard!*

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Invite everyone back to Connect Week next week!  
Anything that pertains to the club!

#### CLOSING PRAYER



## A NEW NAME

**MAIN POINT:** God uses a prostitute to fulfill his plan

**SCRIPTURE:** Joshua 2

### START UP

#### WELCOME (2 mins)

**SAY:** How are we doing today? Hope each of you has had a great week or weekend. We are honored that you are here with us today! We are excited to connect with each of you, and help you connect better to God and a church if you are not already connected to one.

Today is our Connect Week and it is designed to help us connect to three main things.

1. We want to make sure we are all connected to Christ!
  - We want to make sure that we have a personal relationship with Christ because of what he has done for us on the Cross. He paid the penalty that we deserved so we might have eternal life in Christ.
2. We want to make sure you connect to the club.
  - First Priority meets each week with the goal of teaching and training students to reach their campus for Christ. We believe we have the greatest message of HOPE in the world, and we want to equip students to share the redemption story of Christ.
3. Lastly, we want you to connect with a local church!
  - First Priority is not a youth group
    - It is not a church
    - It is not a holy huddle!
  - First Priority is a school club that is designed to engage students and equip them to share the Gospel of Christ using a tool and their own testimony.
  - If you are not plugged into a local church, we want you to hear about the churches that are represented here in our club.

### OPENING PRAYER

**SAY:** God, thanks for this day! Thanks that we get to meet here and connect not only with each other but with you, God! Thank you for this club, our teacher sponsor, and each student that is here today! We love you. In Jesus name I pray, amen!

### GAME (10 mins) – One Arm, Two Arms, No Arms

*This is a game for everyone! Start by picking a leader who will display either one arm, two arms, or no arms.*

*The game is simple!*

- Everyone in the room picks a stance! One arm, two arms or no arms! They pick the stance by actually doing it.
  - Putting one arm in the air
  - Two arms in the air
  - Or no arms in the air
- The selected leader is at the front of the room with his back to the students so he cannot see who has chosen what.
- On the count of three, the leader turns around selecting one of the three poses and does it!
- Those students that match the leader up front must sit down!

*Repeat this until you have one winner.*

### TOOL TIME

#### DEVOTION (JOSHUA 2)

**SAY:** Remember Rahab? Almost any time her name is mentioned, her infamous title accompanies it: Rahab the Harlot! Well, we really should never refer to her with that title any longer because God gave her a second chance and brought her out of that sinful life and used her mightily. Rahab went the way of a lot of women of her day. She had

*Tool Time continued*

to earn a living and she chose the world's oldest profession. We aren't told too many details of her early life, but we know she lived this life of sin for many years. But through a series of events, she bargained for her life with the two spies from the people of God, hid them in her home in exchange for protection for her family, and survived the slaughter and destruction of her country.

Well, that's a good enough story as it is, but it doesn't end there. She marries one of those Israelites and becomes a foremother in the lineage of Jesus Christ. Her name is listed in Hebrews 11 as a great woman of faith. What a comeback! From a notorious harlot to the grandmother—many times removed—of Jesus Christ.

Maybe you have a past of which you are ashamed. Could it be that for many years you lived a life of sin and you feel dirty and tainted as a result? If so, I want you to think about Rahab and remember that God gives second chances to people with sordid pasts.

### PRACTICE

**SAY:** Let's take a minute to talk about second chances or fresh starts!

**ASK:**

What are areas in your life that you tend to get a fresh start?

What are areas in your life that you need a fresh start?

Knowing God has given us a fresh start, how can we live our lives differently?

**SAY:** We want to connect everyone not only to Christ, but to the club as well. Let's take a couple of minutes to talk about the First Priority club and maybe some ways we can get others connected to the club this year!

### PRACTICE CONNECTIONS

Lets give everyone a chance to talk about their church and what they have planned for youth?

- Nights they meet
- Upcoming events
- Ways to get involved

### DIG IN

### ANNOUNCEMENTS *(2 mins)*

*This is the place to make any announcements about upcoming club meetings or events at your church.*

### CLOSING PRAYER