



# HOPE WEEKLY



**THE CONVERSATION  
WITH PEERS**

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# Planning Guide

## Help Week:



Promo:



Welcome:

Have Help Tool ready and pass out.



Host:



Speaker:



Follow-Up:

## Overcome Week:



Promo:



Welcome:



Host:

Choose game or video ready.



Speaker:



Follow-Up:

## Prepare Week:



Promo:



Welcome:

Have Faith Story Sheets ready and pass out.



Host:

Student Speakers:



Follow-Up:

## Engage Week:



Promo:



Welcome:

Have response cards ready and hand out.



Host:

Have game or video ready.



Speaker:



Follow-Up:

# NOTES

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# HELP WEEK “THE CONVERSATION WITH PEERS”



## Help Week

Helping each other believe and share the Gospel story.

**Practice being with Jesus** through Scripture, prayer, and a practical way to believe and share the Gospel in everyday life.



**Promo:**  
Remember to invite people.



**Welcome:**  
Remember to create a welcoming environment.



## Host

“Welcome to First Priority, we are glad that you are here! This week is Help Week and our goal is to use Scripture and a tool to help us share our faith. Let’s start things off with prayer.”



Pray

**Introduce Speaker:** We are glad you are here! Today my friend \_\_\_\_\_ is going to talk about the conversation with peers.”



## Speaker



**Help Tool: Prayer, Care, Share**

**Pass out Prayer, Care, Share Handout to everyone who comes in.**

The Gospel discussion and Help Tool are designed to give you a basic understanding to believe, live, and share the Gospel.



## Gospel Discussion

“The Conversation with Peers”



## Host



**Announcements**

Next week is Overcome Week! Start thinking now who you can invite to join you as we continue this conversation.



Pray



## Follow-Up

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



## Leader Tip

Ask your Club Coach or church if you need extra resources.





## Gospel Discussion

### "The Conversation with Peers"



#### Highlight Scripture

##### Matthew 14:13-14

"Now when Jesus heard this, He withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by Himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed Him on foot from the towns. When He went ashore, He saw a great crowd, and He had compassion on them and healed their sick."



#### Explain (Give context)

A great leader once said, "people don't care how much you know, until they know how much you care." I would agree! Can you think of a time that someone showed you how much they cared about you? (Give people a chance to answer or share a time someone cared about you).

Before we share the Good News with our peers, we should first show them how much we care about them. Jesus is the perfect example of how to pray, care, and share the Good News with others. Matthew, one of Jesus' disciples, told us about Jesus' life and how He prayed, cared, and shared the Good News of the Kingdom of God with people He lived around and was acquainted with.

**Pray** Jesus spent time alone talking to God about people, before He talked to people about God.

This is a great place for us to start. When we pray for our peers, God prepares our hearts to share the Good News of Jesus.

**Care** Jesus cared for the people around Him. Jesus often healed the sick, fed the hungry and helped the hurting. In the same way, we must love those we are trying to reach. We do this by listening to them and caring for them. They are not projects, they are people!

**Share** Jesus had Good News to tell people about God's Kingdom and how to begin a relationship with God now and forever. After praying and caring for our peers, we should share this Good News with them. A restored relationship with God is the absolute best news on the planet! So, you don't have to be afraid to ask them to trust Jesus with their lives and follow Him now and forever.



#### Apply

You can practice living like Jesus today through the "Cause Circle" example of praying, caring, and sharing. Let's practice the way of Jesus by taking time to be intentional about who we will pray for, care for, and share the Good News with.

Pass out the "Cause Circle" sheets.



#### Respond (Groups of 3-5)

Use the "Cause Circle" Help Tool to write down peers that you want to pray, care, and share the Good News of Jesus with.

Create space and time to pray for the names you write down and ask God to show you ways to care for them and confidence to share the Good News of Jesus with them.



#### Bottom Line

Jesus taught us how to pray, care, and share the Good News with others.



#### Disciple Tip

Being with Jesus through Scripture reveals the heart of Jesus.

# THE Cause Circle

Who is God prompting you to **Pray** for, **Care** for, and **Share** the Gospel with? Write their names on the lines below.

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# OVERCOME WEEK “THE CONVERSATION WITH PEERS”



## Overcome Week

Overcoming your fear of sharing the Gospel story.

### Practice becoming like Jesus

by letting Him transform you from the inside out.



### Promo:

Remember to invite people.



### Welcome:

Remember to create a welcoming environment.



## Host

Welcome to First Priority! Today is Overcome Week. Our goal is to learn how to overcome things that keep us from believing and sharing the Gospel in everyday life.



Pray



**Game** Choose a game or funny video to play for 3-5 minutes to get people laughing and talking.

**Say something like:** We are glad you are here! Today my friend \_\_\_\_\_ is going to talk about how we can overcome fears of having a conversation with Peers.



## Speaker

### Gospel Discussion

“Overcoming Fear of the Conversation with Peers”



## Host



### Announcements

Next week is Prepare Week! Start thinking now who you can invite to join you as we continue this conversation.



Pray



## Follow-Up

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



### Leader Tip

A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way.





## Gospel Discussion

### ”Overcoming the Fear of a Conversation with Peers”



#### Highlight Scripture

##### Acts 17:32-34a

“Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked. But others said, “We will hear you again about this.” So Paul went out from their midst. But some men joined him and believed...”



#### Explain (Give context)

If you really follow Jesus, there will come a time that you will be challenged to put faith into practice by doing something outside your comfort zone. I’m sure you are comfortable sharing most of your thoughts with your close friends, but how comfortable are you expressing your viewpoint to those who don’t know you as well? (Peers are people who know you through a few interactions or reputation only). What if Jesus challenged YOU to share the truth with someone who has a reputation for being strongly against your beliefs? How comfortable would you be in that situation?

The Apostle Paul had plenty of close friends – but those weren’t the only people he engaged in conversation with about the Gospel. In Athens, he encountered a huge opportunity to share the truth with a large group of people who were just as smart as him (possibly even smarter) but had little in common with his viewpoint. Right then and there, he decided to accept the Gospel challenge and make the case for Christ in public. Brave, right?

And – get this – the results weren’t that impressive. He tried his hardest to reason with everyone, but his incredible presentation didn’t win them all to Christ. Some made fun of him, some wanted to hear more, and some followed Jesus. Sound familiar yet? That’s right, his “Engage Week” went like many of ours. But, the most important thing was that he ACCEPTED the challenge over and over. And each time he did, he learned something and so did the people he engaged in conversation with about the Gospel.



#### Apply

Have you ever accepted the challenge to share the message of Jesus with your peer? What are some good ways to lead a conversation with a peer in the direction of the Gospel? (Let students answer). When sharing with someone who doesn’t agree with your view, it’s always important to find something that you have in common and work from there. Sharing the Gospel is not just about talking, but also listening.



#### Respond (Groups of 3-5)

Here are two examples of how you could start a conversation with a peer.

“Hi (name of peer) – I noticed something \_\_\_\_\_ when you were talking to a group of friends yesterday - you mentioned something about your belief in \_\_\_\_\_ and I thought what you said was so interesting that I wanted to ask you about it. How did you come to that conclusion? I think it’s really interesting to discuss different viewpoints and I wanted to get your take on that.”

“Hi (name of peer) – I was just thinking today about the fact that we had this one class together all last semester and I never really took the time to get to know you better. I mean, I know a little about you, but I don’t think I’ve ever asked you about your views on things. How would you describe yourself and maybe your views on spiritual stuff?”

#### → Bottom Line

Sometimes the win of a Gospel conversation is what we learned from it.



#### Disciple Tip

The most important thing in your life is not what you do; it is who you become.





# PREPARE WEEK "THE CONVERSATION WITH PEERS"



## Prepare Week

Preparing your story of receiving the Gospel.

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



### Host

"Welcome to First Priority, we are glad that 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

## Worst Case Scenario

Write down several viewpoints that are opposed to the Gospel on a piece of paper and cut each one out with scissors.

Fold each piece of paper in half and put them in a bowl. The viewpoints can be something like this: [I don't believe in God, I'm not sure if there is or isn't a God, I think all religions are correct, I think I'm basically a good person and don't need salvation, I think all religions are wrong, I have a hard time believing God is good because bad things happen, I think there is no point to life except to have as much fun as possible, I think everything is meaningless and without purpose, I believe in a God but I'm not so sure about Jesus.]

Select six or eight people to come up to the front and divide into two teams. Flip a coin to see who will share their testimony and/or the Gospel first. At the start of the first round, one person from each team will face each other. The team that won the coin toss will go first. Select a teammate to prepare to share their testimony and/or the Gospel with a member of the other team.

A selected person from the other team will then draw a piece of paper from the bowl. Whatever the paper says, they have to role play as that viewpoint and use it to disagree with the person sharing their testimony and/or the Gospel. You must start the conversation as if you have just run into each other during the school day and you've got some free time to talk. The person sharing their testimony will start the conversation, and the other person will try to use their viewpoint to distract, reject, or argue in a "worst case scenario" for the Gospel presenter. The conversation can be humorous, but make sure to keep it honest enough that it could actually happen in real life. Each round will last 6 minutes. After each round, the opposing team gets to share the truth while the other opposes them. Points can be awarded each round by the club coach to each team, but this is optional.



### Announcements

Thank you everyone for being here today! 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.



### Promo:

Remember to invite people.



### Welcome:

Remember to create a welcoming environment.



### Leader Tip

Everyone on the leader team should be intentional about connecting with new people who come in.



# ENGAGE WEEK “THE CONVERSATION WITH PEERS”



## Engage Week

Engage your school with the Gospel story.

**Do what Jesus did** by sharing the Gospel story with your friends through words and actions.



### Promo:

Remember to invite people.



### Welcome:

Remember to create a welcoming environment.



## Host

"Welcome to First Priority, we are glad you joined us! Today we are going to start off with a game to get to know each other better.



## Game

Choose a game or funny video to play for 3-5 minutes to get people laughing and talking.

**Say something like:** "Today, my friend, \_\_\_\_\_, is going to share something that is very important to them. Please listen respectfully as it takes a lot of courage to speak in front of others. You all were given a "student response card" that looks like this (hold up a sample card) when you came in. Hold on to it and we will explain what it is for later."



## Speaker



## Gospel Discussion

THE FOUR

### “The Four”



## Host

### Invitation Options

**1. Response Cards:** If everyone would take a minute and think about what was shared today. If you decided to begin a relationship with Jesus today, then on your response card, simply check that box. Let us know so that we can connect with you and answer any questions you may have. 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 connect with you.

**2. Talk/Pray with Someone:** If you would like to talk to a Student Leader or have them pray with you, they would be glad to! Just catch one of them before you leave and let them know what impacted you today and how they can pray for you.



## Announcements

Next week is Help Week! Start thinking now who you can invite to join you as we continue this conversation.



## Pray



## Follow-Up

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



## Leader Tip

Leaders empower others to become the best version of themselves.





**God totally loves you!** His love is boundless and unconditional. The love of God has shown itself through Jesus Christ. This loving God can be experienced, He is real and He wants nothing more than for you to experience His love personally and to discover the purpose of your life in your relationship with Him.

#### 1 John 4:16

”So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in Him.“



**Unfortunately, we do not experience God’s love because we ignore Him.** We search everywhere for meaning and fulfillment – but not with God. We don’t trust Him and do not think that He wants the best for us. Going our own way and the selfish actions that result from it are what the Bible calls sin. Sin damages and destroys our relationships with others. Sin keeps us from living the fulfilling life that God intends for us.

#### Romans 3:23-24

”for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,“



**Our sin and our selfish actions do not stop God from loving us.** He even became a human being in Jesus Christ and gave His life for us. He took our place on the cross, bearing all the consequences of sin Himself. Jesus died – but He rose to life again. He offers us peace with God and a personal relationship with Him. Through faith in Jesus, we can experience God’s love daily, discover our purpose, and have eternal life after death.

#### John 3:16

”For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.“



**God has already done everything to show us how much He loves us.** Through Jesus Christ, He offers us fulfillment and eternal life. We can talk to God directly – we call it “prayer” – to ask for forgiveness for living our lives without Him. We can choose to live with God by trusting Jesus Christ from now on. How will you decide?

#### John 1:12

”But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God.“

**Pray:** God, I know that even though I haven’t fully experienced Your love for me, that You love me no matter what. Today I am choosing to follow Jesus now and forever. In Jesus name, Amen.



#### Disciple Tip

Everyone will know that you are Jesus’ disciples because of the way you love each other.

# STUDENT RESPONSE CARD

My response to the gospel message today

(please only check one):

- I want to start following Jesus **today**.
- I have **questions** about following Jesus.
- I am **already** a follower of Jesus.
- I would like to get connected to a youth group.

My Name \_\_\_\_\_

Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

Do you attend a church? \_\_\_\_\_

Who invited you to First Priority 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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(please only check one):

- I want to start following Jesus **today**.
- I have **questions** about following Jesus.
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- I would like to get connected to a youth group.

My Name \_\_\_\_\_

Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

Do you attend a church? \_\_\_\_\_

Who invited you to First Priority 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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My response to the gospel message today

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- I have **questions** about following Jesus.
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- I would like to get connected to a youth group.

My Name \_\_\_\_\_

Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

Do you attend a church? \_\_\_\_\_

Who invited you to First Priority 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.

# FOLLOW-UP GUIDE

Following up with those who just committed their lives to Jesus or have questions is equally as important as sharing the Gospel! This guide will give you a few pointers on how to follow-up correctly.

## SIX THINGS TO DO WHEN FOLLOWING UP

### 1. Determine how many and what kind of follow-up has been requested.

As soon as possible, read through the response cards after you have collected them and let your Coach know how many people committed their lives to Christ and how many students have questions or want someone to follow up with them.

### 2. Organize the response card information.

Write down on the follow-up chart the names, response, and contact info of everyone who made decisions and requested to talk with someone.

**3. Make contact within 24 hours with everyone who responded to the Gospel on Engage Week.** This can be done by text message, personal conversation at school, or social media, just remember to check with your parents for permission before contacting someone you do not know. The initial message should be something like this:

"Hello \_\_\_\_! My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I saw that you came to First Priority club this week! We are really excited you came, and we hope you'll come back next week. I also noticed that you marked on your response card that you [prayed to begin a relationship with Christ] -or- [wanted to talk with someone about the Gospel] so I wanted to ask how I could help you. If you have questions about their responses, you can contact your Campus Coach for guidance.

### 4. Invite them to church! If they were invited by a friend to First Priority...

Ask that friend to invite them to youth group this week, since they are more likely to attend church with someone they know. If they plan to go to church for the first time, you can also ask your Coach to notify the Student Pastor that they will be having a new guest this week! Make sure to discard any response cards that you will not be needing for follow-up.

### 5. Offer a free Bible to those who prayed to receive Christ if Bibles are available through your First Priority club or church.

Make sure one is available before you offer and make sure they receive it if they ask for one.

### 6. Share Stories

Share any cool new salvation stories and new local youth group members with your Coach! He or she will want to celebrate with you about what God is doing through your club!

Student Name	Started following Jesus today.	Questions about following Jesus.	Wants to connect to youth group.	Follow-up dates and notes.
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				
11.				
12.				