



HOPE WEEKLY



**THE CONVERSATION
WITH FOLLOWERS**

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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

HELP WEEK “THE CONVERSATION WITH FOLLOWERS”



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 setting a good example to reach your followers with the Good News of Jesus.”



Speaker



Help Tool: Hand Gospel

Practice the Help Tool before the club and **pass out the Hand Gospel** 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 Followers”



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

Make sure the Student Leader Team has communicated well.





Gospel Discussion

“The Conversation with Followers”



Highlight Scripture

1 Timothy 4:12

“Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.”



Explain (Give context)

Do you have followers? I don't mean the ones on Instagram or Twitter. I'm talking about your “circle of influence”. For example: a younger sibling or cousin, someone that admires you, or someone that chooses your values or ideas whether they believe them or not. That is a follower.

How does it make you feel knowing that you are setting an example, good or bad, to your followers? (Allow a few students to respond.) In First Timothy, chapter 4 verse 12, the apostle Paul instructs Timothy on how to respond to that. “Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.”

So how do you as a believer set an example to your followers when it comes to your faith? First, Paul reminds Timothy about his speech. How you use your words matter, people are listening. Second is your conduct. How do you behave around your “circle of influence”? Someone is watching. The third and fourth go hand in hand; in love and in faith. Do you love those who follow you? Do you love them enough to share your faith?

Today we are going to use our hand to share the Gospel with our followers so that when we are done, we will have set an example by sharing our faith, in love.



Apply

Some relationships start with a simple handshake. Let's use our hands to share with our followers how to begin a relationship with Jesus (See “Hand Gospel” handout for instructions).

- Thumb** – Good News (John 3:16)
- Pointer** – One Problem, Sin (Romans 3:23)
- Middle** – Christ died on the Cross (Romans 5:8)
- Ring** – Believe and Commit (Romans 10:9-10)
- Little** – A little act of Faith (Ephesians 2:8-9)
- Palm** – Secure and safe in the hand of God (John 10:27-29)



Respond (Groups of 3-5)

Pair up and practice sharing the Gospel with your hand.



Bottom Line

Your life is the Gospel that your followers are seeing.















Disciple Tip

Practice being with Jesus by setting aside time each day to pray.



HELP TOOL – HAND GOSPEL HANDOUT “THE CONVERSATION WITH FOLLOWERS”

HAND GOSPEL	
	First, put your thumb up and say, “I’ve got Good News!” John 3:16 says “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.” It is a FREE gift and available RIGHT NOW! What stands in our way of receiving this FREE gift?
	Second, put your pointer finger up and say, “There is ONE PROBLEM. ” Sin! Romans 3:23 “All have sinned..” We cannot save ourselves. We deserve death and hell. God is loving but just. He must punish sin but has provided us forgiveness.
	Third, point to your middle finger and say, “Christ died on the cross.” Romans 5:8 “While we were still sinners...Christ died for us.” He DIED , was BURIED , and AROSE . To receive Eternal Life , we must repent and ask Jesus to forgive us.
	Fourth, point to your ring finger and say, “Just believe and Commit.” Confess, Repent, and Commit! Romans 10:9-10 “If you confess with your mouth Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved; for with the heart man believes resulting in righteousness and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.” Believe it & Speak it! Jesus is received by faith.
	Fifth, show your little finger and say: Just a little, simple act of FAITH is all it takes to trust in Jesus. Ephesians 2:8-9 says “For by Grace you are saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is a gift of God; not a result of works, that no one should boast.” This is God’s redemption at Jesus’ expense. Trust in Jesus now. Surrender to Him and give Him control of your life.
	Sixth, point to the palm of your hand and say: We are secure and safe in the hand of God! John 10:27-29 says, “...I give eternal life to my sheep and they will never perish; and no one can snatch them out of my hand...” The devil cannot steal you either. Does this all make sense? Would you be willing to trust and receive Jesus right now as your Savior? Pray with me!

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OVERCOME WEEK “THE CONVERSATION WITH FOLLOWERS”



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 Followers.



Speaker

Gospel Discussion

“Overcoming Fear of the Conversation with Followers”



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

People may hear your words, but they feel your attitude.



Gospel Discussion

"Overcoming Fear of the Conversation with Followers"



Highlight Scripture

Matthew 10:38-39

"And whoever does not take his cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for My sake will find it."



Explain (Give context)

We all have people who look up to us whether we are a good example or a bad one. Our fear of messing up or misleading others shouldn't keep us from being a good example that inspires people to live for what really matters, though. Lots of people in the Bible knew about the burden of having followers and the fear of living in the spotlight. It is also true that none of the leaders in the Bible were perfect other than Jesus! Abraham left his familiar home with his family in obedience to God. Moses had millions of people LITERALLY following him out of Egypt through the desert. Nehemiah was well aware of the weight of his every decision because of how they affected those under his leadership. These leaders all had one thing in common:

They knew EXACTLY where they were supposed to be going.

All of the leaders in the Bible had to go through suffering, trials, temptations, and most of them had to deal with the consequences of bad calls. But – even through that, they STILL knew exactly what direction they were supposed to be heading in.

They knew on the other side of all that sacrifice was the joy in accomplishing God's plan for them. True – if you have no idea where you are going, you probably shouldn't be trying to lead others, but it is also true that you are automatically a leader just by having influence (good or bad). Because of this, we should be careful about our words and actions, and we should also be BOLD and INTENTIONAL in leading others closer to Jesus.



Apply

Do you want to be a leader? How sure are you that you "know where you are going"? Do you have a destination in mind? How does that destination line up with God's word? Knowing where you need to go is important because when others follow you, they end up wherever you do. Not every leader has a destination in mind.



Respond (Groups of 3-5)

Here is an example of how you could start a conversation with someone who looks up to you:

"Hi (name) I've noticed that you do a lot of the same things I do and I want you to know I think it's really cool that we have things in common. I have to admit, I'm not perfect at all, so I really hope that you see Christ working in me. I'm always happy to mentor anyone, but if you want to know what my "bottom line" is, then really there is nothing more important than being a disciple of Jesus. Do you understand what that means? I'd be happy to share with you ..."



Bottom Line

The way you lead impacts the people who follow you.



Disciple Tip

The more time you spend with Jesus, the more you will naturally become like Jesus.



PREPARE WEEK “THE CONVERSATION WITH FOLLOWERS”



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

Evangelism Panel

Prior to Prepare Week, select a panel of 4-8 leaders who have the most experience in sharing Christ with others and living out their faith publicly. Set 4-8 chairs in front of the club and have them sit in them. The Prepare Week host can lead almost like a live TV show host and take charge of the program and discussion. Pass out a note card to each student and ask them to think of a question about how to be most effective for Christ on your school campus and turn that in to the Prepare week host as the discussion goes on.

If no good questions are asked, simply go down the lineup and discuss what you think is the most effective way to live for Jesus at school.



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.



Leader Tip

Take time to prepare some questions that address important topics at your school.



ENGAGE WEEK "THE CONVERSATION WITH FOLLOWERS"



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

"Rescue. Reconnect. Renew."



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

Engage Week is an important time to help someone take their step of being a follower of Jesus.





Gospel Discussion

“Rescue. Reconnect. Renew.”

The Gospel simply means “Good News”. Throughout history, a “Gospel” would be written about someone to tell of their birth, life, and impact in the world. It also explained how that person’s life would affect yours. The Gospel of Jesus is the good news of who Jesus is and what He has done for us. His birth, life, death, and resurrection impacted the world in a major way! Jesus told us that we are created by God, valued, and loved more than we could ever dream. The Gospel is the good news that Jesus has come to rescue us, reconnect us with the Father and each other, and to make all things new.

Rescue

Jesus came to rescue us, bring us into the family of God, and make all things new. But wait, why do we need rescued? We need to be rescued because of all of us have sinned. What does that mean? Sin means that we have all failed to fulfill the purpose that humans were created for. Sin has created brokenness in every area of life. We can all relate with that, right? Sin is when we make things about ourselves. It is living for ourselves, living our own way, for our fame and recognition – instead of living to love God and others and glorify God who created us. Our failures have broken the relationship between us and God - our heavenly Father. Sin has distorted our true identity, and brought brokenness into every part of our world. This is why we need rescued!

Reconnect

God created us to have a relationship with Him. Sin disconnected us. Kind of like when losing WIFI connection - the communication is broken! God came to rescue us through Jesus. Jesus lived a life without sin (failure) and totally fulfilled the purpose of God through His life, death, and resurrection. When we hear the Good News of Jesus, believe, and devote our lives to following Him, we are reconnected to God. We are reconnected to our true identity as God's children.

Renew

When you place your trust in Jesus and devote your life to following Him, you begin a new way of living. The life that God created you to live - renewed. Have you ever felt like a failure? Have you ever felt disconnected from God? Have you ever dreamed of having a life full of love, joy, purpose, and meaning? You can. The Gospel says you can be rescued, reconnected, and renewed by faith in Jesus.

Pray - God, you know that I need rescued today. Rescued from decisions I have made and things that have happened that are beyond my control. I now know that you want to rescue me, reconnect me to you, and renew me to a life of joy, purpose, and meaning. I am choosing to trust and follow you now and forever. In Jesus name, Amen.



Disciple Tip

Followers of Jesus are the body of Christ on Earth. That is why we should do what Jesus did.



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.

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.
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- I want to start following Jesus **today**.
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- 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.

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.

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.				