

# **CHURCH CONNECTION PLAN**

### WHY:

To support students who have made a Decision for Christ at First Priority connect with local churches.

### WHO:

- Follow-Up Student Leaders, who excel at creating genuine connections!
  - They are supported by the Campus Coach, who mentors them through this process.

# **KEYS TO SUCCESS:**

- Focus on Relationships
  - (Keep it Genuine!)
- Personalize the Conversations
- Keep Follow-Up Peer-to-Peer

## HOW:

After organizing the Response Cards according to the checked boxes, follow up with new believers using the following steps:

- **Text or DM** the new believer to schedule a time to reconnect and share your excitement about their new faith!
- Follow them on social media if you're not already connected.
- Send a follow-up text to invite them to church or back to the club.
- Send a reminder via text or social media about the upcoming week's club.
- Send a thank-you text to show appreciation for their attendance at church or the club.
- Ask them to share their story at <u>www.firstpriority.club/story</u>.

Refer to the next page for detailed guidance on these steps.

#### Day of Invite Week:

- Have every student fill out a Response Card during Invite Week.
- Collect all forms with checked boxes and divide them among the Student Leaders.
- Connect with everyone from the club on social media today!
- If they're not already linked to the club via your usual communication methods (Remind/Group Text/GroupMe), add them now.
- By the end of the day, text or DM with a similar message: "Thanks for making First Priority awesome today! I saw your response on the card and wanted to see if we could talk about it tomorrow at lunch (after school/homeroom/etc). See you soon! – (Your First Name)"

#### Day After Invite Week:

- If there's no response from yesterday's text, follow up with another text, as you see fit, to arrange a time and place to reconnect and celebrate their decision!
- If a meeting is set, remind them of the time and express your excitement about the conversation.
- Come prepared with names of local churches that might be close to their home.
  Invite them to your church if possible.
- If there's no meeting or response, leave this message or similar: "Just following up on my text from yesterday! Also, don't forget club meets \_\_\_\_\_\_ next week!"

#### Meeting with a New Believer:

- Have a First Priority Bible to give them, if possible.
- Give them an Invite Card to your church.
- Ask why they decided to follow Jesus and listen to their personal story.
- Help them understand their decision and answer any questions they might have.
- Give them an Invite Card to the next club meeting and invite them to sit with you.
- Pray with them.

#### 3 Days After Invite Week:

• Send a reminder text about the club meeting with an encouraging message.

#### 2 Days Before the Next FP Meeting:

• Send a reminder about coming to your church and the club next week with an encouraging text or Bible passage.

#### Day of Next FP Meeting:

- Send a reminder that morning about the FP meeting.
- If they come to the club, celebrate them and share their story on social media (if they approve!)
- In the "God Story" section of the Club Report, have your Campus Coach or Faculty Sponsor share their story. If your club does not have a way to report, have your Campus Coach email kristina@fpofamerica.com.

If they do not come to FP Meeting but go to your church, invite them to come back to FP at school. Share their connection to church on social media, if they approve! If they do not come to either the FP Meeting or Church, send a message like: "Sorry we missed you at FP/Church today, we'd love for you to join us next week." Invite them through social media, as well. It's important to connect with a student who makes a decision or wants to connect with a church at least 5-7 times, in a genuine way.