

GOSPEL PRESENTATION GUIDE

INVITE WEEK

Use this guide as an outline for sharing your story and God's story during INVITE Week. During Prepare Weeks, we work on preparing and writing our stories to be able to share with our friends and peers. INVITE Week is one of those opportunities! Be creative, share your heart, and as always, if you need help, just ask!



GOD'S LOVE: HIS PURPOSE

God wants to live in a relationship with us eternally. God loves you, and He wants you to have an intimate, personal relationship with Him and to walk eternally with Him. His desire is for you to "have life, and have it to the full" (John 10:10), and to have love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Gal. 5: 22-23). Since God created us for a relationship with Him and to have eternal life, why are many not enjoying this experience?



OUR PROBLEM: SIN AND SEPARATION

Everyone sins. Everyone does things that presumably makes them happy when in the end it is something that leaves them feeling empty. As the Scriptures say, "No one is righteous— not even one. No one is truly wise; no one is seeking God. There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one" (Romans 3:10-12, 23 NIV). Our sin separates us from God. The price (or consequence) of sin is death.



GOD'S PROVISION: THE CROSS

Jesus Christ is the only answer to this problem of separation from God. He died on the cross and rose from the grave to pay the penalty for our sins, to completely bridge the gap between God and us. "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8 NIV). God has provided the only way, and we must follow that way. Yes, all have sinned; all fall short of God's glorious ideal; yet now God declares us not guilty of offending Him if we trust in Jesus Christ, who in His grace freely takes away our sins. "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23 NIV).



OUR RESPONSE: RECEIVE CHRIST

We can receive Jesus Christ when we believe in who He is and what He has done and trust in Him alone to save us. "For if you tell others with your own mouth that Jesus Christ is your Lord, and believe in your own heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in his heart that a man becomes right with God; and with his mouth he tells others of his faith, confirming his salvation." (Romans 10:9-10, NIV).

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LEADER TIP:

This next section is meant to be interactive. Just as we do each week, the Tool Time is the chance to put everything we have learned into action. Try to make this a time for discussion, interaction, or application. (Don't feel like you have to, but as always, be creative!)

HOW TO FOLLOW THE WAY OF CHRIST:

- 1) Admit your need (I am a sinner).
- 2) Be willing to turn (repent) from your sins and lifestyle to begin to understand that by living differently your life will bring **John 10:10** (live to its fullest) and **Galatians 5:22** (Fruit of the Spirit) to life for you.
- 3) Believe that Jesus Christ died for you on the cross and rose from the grave before you begin to understand it; **it is not what you do but what He has done.**
- 4) Through prayer, invite Jesus Christ to come in and control your life through the Holy Spirit (receive Him as your Savior). This isn't a one-and-done thing; it is a daily process to work out your salvation with fear and trembling (**Philippians 2:12**).

WHAT TO PRAY:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner and I need Your forgiveness. I believe You died to pay the penalty for my sin. I want to turn from my false belief about who I am (sinful nature) and fill my life with You instead. My way of living has left me empty. I invite You to come into my heart and live. In Jesus' name, Amen.

LEADER TIP: During the response time, you may want to play a song for the students to listen to as they are filling out the response cards and leaving Club.

MY FAITH STORY - TESTIMONY GUIDE

HOW TO WRITE YOUR TESTIMONY

1. Start with a Keyword

The first step in writing your Faith Story is choosing what keywords describe your life before Christ. If you have been going to church for a while, maybe you have always known who Christ is. Describe a time when it was hard to see God actively working in your life. Below is a list of emotions. Circle two or three that adequately describe how you felt as a result of a problem you faced from the absence of Christ in your life. You are not limited to this list, so feel free to choose a keyword of your own! This part helps keep your story compelling and on track.

Life before Christ or without Christ's Presence:

abandoned	ashamed	distrusting	heartbroken	lost	unforgiving
alienated	betrayed	doubtful	hopeless	outcast	unloved
alone	bitter	fearful	hurt	prideful	
angry	confused	frustrated	insecure	rejected	
apathetic	depressed	guilty	lonely	uncertain	

2. Set up the Background

Now describe the situation in which you came to face this problem and why your keyword describes the way you felt. It is more important to be honest than dramatic. This helps people to relate with your story personally and understand why we need God in our lives. Use the back of this sheet or a piece of notebook paper.

3. Share How Jesus Entered Your Story

Now describe how you came to know Jesus or how He made Himself known in your life again. How you began to feel Him working. Be sure to describe that moment or that process, if you can, with adjectives that show how meaningful and impactful that it was for you. Try to describe how Jesus touched your heart and how you responded, such as asking Him to be your Lord and Savior. This part challenges people's idea of what God is like.

4. State the Impact of Christ on your Life

Now describe how Christ impacted your problem and your life. Use the emotion opposite of your keyword and share how Christ either reversed your problem or is continually giving you the power to overcome. This is the part that inspires those listening to place their hope Christ!

Life after Christ and with Christ's Presence:

belonging	cherished	forgiven	humble	patient	self-acceptance	understanding
called	excited	full	joyful	peaceful	surrounded	wanted
caring	fearless	happy	loved	proud	thankful	
certain	forgiving	hopeful	loving	purposeful	trusting	