

SMALL GROUPS

IDEAS THAT BRING SUCCESS

Although this series is also geared for large gatherings, throughout this material are opportunities to break into small groups as well to discuss questions, pray together, read scripture, and let the Holy Spirit minister through your leaders. Remember, Jesus at 12 astonished the leaders with His answers *during their “small groups”*.

Here are some reminders to ensure that your small group time is effective.

DIVIDE

Usually, groups of less than 10 are best for personal interaction and intimacy. Dividing groups according to gender can also be very helpful.

KNOW

Confirm that your small group leaders know the material and have prayed over it *before* they come to class. Preparation is key for them to be confident and have the ability to lead the group with effectiveness.

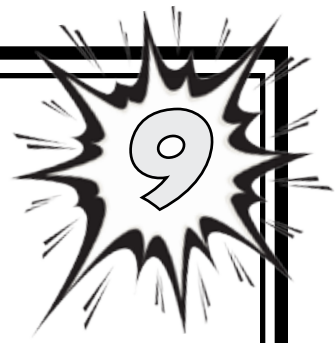
VALUE

Allow the Holy Spirit to help you see those students that need more attention and bring value to their lives by affirming any positive attributes you notice. Take this opportunity to pour out love on all your students. Care for them and allow God to give you compassion and patience.

SHEPHERD

Help this be a safe place for your students. Shepherd them to speak words that are positive about others, don't allow them to make fun of responses, keep order, don't allow anyone to dominate the conversation or be left out, and make it a priority to listen. Listen to the students and listen to the Holy Spirit.

OVERVIEW



THE FOCUS

The purpose of the Ten Commandments

THE M'nM (KEY VERSE)

"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

Exodus 20:2 (NKJV)

THE TAKEAWAY

God didn't give us the Ten Commandments to obey out of obligation. God gave us the Ten Commandments so we could have more freedom to live by.

THE PREPARATION

Submit your agenda to the Holy Spirit.

Spend a couple of minutes each day during your regular quiet time with Jesus to listen to what He might impress on your heart for your next weekly gathering.

Meditate on the key verse and pray for an increase of His wisdom.

Set up DVD: Week 1



14

WEEK ONE

Introduction Lesson

ENLIST

We need to understand that rules, commands, laws, God's word, or whatever you want to call God's instruction to us is for our benefit. Until we understand that, rules will always be negative.

QUIET

Ask students to get by themselves for 5 minutes and spend time with Jesus.

Encourage them to pray and ask Him to forgive them for where they have fallen short of God's Word.

Encourage them to think about how rules are a positive and not a negative.

MEDITATE

Direct them to meditate on their M'nM verse for this week and thank God for bringing them out of "slavery" into "freedom".

LEADER MOMENT:

Ways to remember what the M'nM is....

- You may want students to bring a journal each week where they write down their M'nM verse.
- Write the M'nM up on the screen and display it during your ENLIST time.
- Give each student an index card, and ask them to write it out and carry it with them throughout the week.

WEEK TWO SCHEDULE



WELCOME

Welcome your group as they enter using music, activities, nice lighting, greeters with pleasant smiles. Engage the guests and regulars alike before you even begin.

WORSHIP

Singing songs and spending time in worship helps tune our hearts to God's frequency. You may have a full student led band with singers and dancers, an accompaniment track, a worship DVD, or even an accordion. Whatever you use, make sure to teach your students to spend time with God.

HOUSE BUSINESS

Announcements, birthdays, guest gifts, prizes for those who brought a friend, giveaways, attendance charts (they can still be a great tool), etc.

LESSON

ENGAGE - VIDEO - EXPLORE - EXCITE - ENLIST

You may skip enlist or excite from time to time, you might even want to assign another leader to the engage segment and ask them to come up with their own idea, just make sure whatever you do fits your group and time schedule.

WORSHIP

This might be a great opportunity during the Enlist segment to come back to a worshipful atmosphere and apply what they just learned as you lead them through a challenge during another short worship time together.

LIVE TO GIVE

Live 2 Give is an offering moment that emphasizes a preteen's responsibility to give back to the world around them. This value challenges a student's world that is full of self centered pursuits. It reminds them that their blessings are an opportunity to bless others.

CLOSING

Summarize and encourage your students to live out the things they learned this week, and ask a few students to close with a prayer.



WEEK FIVE

“...name in vain...”

ENGAGE

Today we are learning about the third commandment which says, “You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.

What’s in a Name?

Today you will learn how important a name is and what it represents? This game will help you see how a little name makes a big impression on us.

- Pick a guy and a girl to play the game.
- Match the name of the company with these slogans from the past

Slogan

I’m Loving it

Eat Mor Chikin!

Obey your thirst.

Just Do It.

Breakfast of Champions

Every kiss begins with Kay

Finger lickin’ good.

Company Name

McDonald’s

Chick-fil-A

Sprite

Nike

Wheaties

Kay Jewelers

KFC