



Week 1: Know It

1 WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO HAVE GODLY RELATIONSHIPS?

- A. You will always become like the people you are closest to.
 - I. 1 Corinthians 15:33: “Do not be deceived: **Bad** company ruins **Good** morals.”
 - a. Reflect on a situation when maybe you felt someone was influencing you to do something you knew was not right (e.g. swearing, gossiping, lying).
 - i. The Bible tells us that we are **in** the world, but we are not **of** the world (John 17:16).
 - 1) Being in a relationship with other believers means that each of us is sanctified in the truth, and can push each other to what His Word says instead of what the world says.

2 HOW DO I DEVELOP GODLY RELATIONSHIPS IN MY LIFE?

- A. Hebrews 10:24-25: “And let us consider how **to stir up one another** to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but **encouraging one another**, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.”
 - I. We are encouraged to **gather together on a regular basis** (e.g. SOZO each week, in small groups, serving, Bible studies, and celebrating the wins in each other’s lives).

3 WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF COMING TO CHURCH?

- A. It reminds us of what the **Word of God** says and how to live out a life the **Lord has called us to**.
- B. The three most important assignments for a church are to:
 - I. Evangelize, Care, and Disciple
 - a. **Evangelism**: Spreading the love of Jesus by public preaching or witnessing
 - b. **Care**: To look after and provide needs for members of the congregation
 - c. **Disciple**: To help others know and follow Jesus as they take their next step with Him
 - II. Ephesians 4:12-13: “...to **equip** the saints **for the work of ministry**, for building up the body of Christ until we all achieve the **unity of faith**, and of the knowledge of the **Son of God** to mature manhood, to the measure of the **stature of the fullness of Christ**.”
 - a. **Equip**: To provide someone with what they need to fulfill their God-given purpose
 - b. **Unity**: Bringing together different people and giftings by FAITH in Christ



Week 2: Have It

POP QUIZ: WHOEVER ANSWERS CORRECTLY GETS A PRIZE!

- A. What are the three most important areas a church must shepherd their people in?
 - I. **Evangelism, Care, and Discipleship.**
- B. What does it mean to evangelize?
 - I. **Spreading the love of Jesus by public preaching or witnessing.**
- C. What does it mean to care?
 - I. **To look after and provide needs for members of the congregation.**
- D. What does it mean to be disciplined?
 - I. **To help others know and follow Jesus as they take their next step in their walk with the Lord.**

ACTIVITY

- A. Pass out two notecards to each member of the group.
- B. Have students take three minutes and make a list on one side of the notecard to identify characteristics they want to have in a Godly friendship.
 - a. On the other side of the notecard, have the students identify qualities about themselves that make them Godly friends to others.
- C. Have the students go around in a circle and share what they wrote down on their lists.
- D. Put all the notecards in the middle and as a group pray over the notecards and the students that the Lord would bring them these friendships!

NEXT STEP

- A. Jesus did not come to be served BUT to serve others and lay down His own life.
 - I. How can you serve others with your life and make an impact?
 - a. Children's ministry, café, welcome team, worship, etc.
 - b. Take your students to the Starting Point booth if they desire to take this next step.



Week 3: Share It

1 DISCUSS WITH THE STUDENTS: WHAT ARE SOME REASONS YOUR FRIENDS MAY NOT KNOW THE IMPORTANCE OF A GODLY FRIENDSHIP OR COME TO CHURCH?

- A. They didn't grow up in church.
- B. They don't surround themselves with other Godly friends.
- C. They didn't receive Jesus into their hearts.

2 SMALL GROUP LEADER: SHARE A STORY ABOUT A TIME YOU INVITED A FRIEND TO CHURCH OR A GODLY FRIENDSHIP YOU HAVE AND HOW IT HAS IMPACTED YOUR LIFE.

3 OPEN UP THE DISCUSSION FOR OTHER STUDENTS TO SHARE EXPERIENCES WITH CHURCH OR FRIENDS THAT HAVE HAPPENED INSIDE OF SOZO.

- A. Have there been any friendships you have made in SOZO that have impacted your life?
- B. Was there a specific message or time in worship that accelerated your relationship with God?

4 ACTIVITY

- A. Revisit Point 1: Have the students identify 1-2 people they can share what they have learned over the last 3 weeks!
 - a. This could be someone from the student's school, sports team, or a student off the Shepherding Report who has not been back to church.
 - B. Have each student identify 1-2 people they want to text to invite to church or to make plans with outside of the church.
 - C. Help each student with a message:
 - a. "Hey _____! We miss you so much at SOZO! In service this month we have been learning so much about _____. Next week during service we have _____. I would love to see you. How can I help to make sure you can be here?"
 - b. "Hey _____! I hope you are doing well. I wanted to text you and see if you have anything going on next Wednesday. I am going to church, and I wanted to invite you to come with me! In church, we will be having _____."
 - c. Small Group leaders and students can create their own messages based on the students and friends! These are just some examples.
 - D. Send messages together!
 - E. Celebrate the students! They have learned so much over the last three weeks.
-