



SIX KEYS TO A GREAT CAMPUS MINISTRY



WELCOME TO A NEW SCHOOL YEAR!

(or as we like to call it, a new 9 month mission trip!)

In Acts 1:8 Jesus told his disciples to be His witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea & Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Your school is your Jerusalem!

It is a mission field with hundreds of students who need Jesus. And that makes you a missionary.

But the great news is – you don't have to do this alone!

The Equal Access Act of 1984 (upheld by the Supreme Court in 1990) says that students are allowed to have Christian clubs in their schools. You can connect with all of the believers in your school and you can share God's love with your school – together!

Now there are great *campus ministries* (a better way to say 'Christian Club') and there are not-so-great ones. In this booklet there are seven keys to have a great club that students will *want* to be involved in.



1. INTENTIONAL PRAYER

Are you praying for your school? Have you asked others to pray for your school? Don't do anything else until you have done this! Here are some creative ways to pray for your school –

See You At The Pole

The 4th Wednesday of every September is “See You At The Pole” the international day of student prayer. Visit www.syatp.com for ideas and resources to help you plan your school's SYATP.

Adopt-Your-School

Every school in America is listed at www.everyschool.com. The goal is to have people praying for every school in the country. Ask your church to adopt your school!

Claim Your Campus

Coordinate with other youth groups to make sure your school is being prayed for each day of the week. www.claimyourcampus.com

Five Friend Focus

Write down the names of five friends you want to tell about Jesus this year. Pray for them daily.

Prayer Triplets

Every week meet with 3 Christian friends to pray for 3 friends who don't know Jesus.

Three Open Prayer

When you pray for your friends, pray these things – 1) God open a door, 2) Open their heart, and 3) Open my mouth.



2. CLEAR SENSE OF PURPOSE

You need to know what the purpose of your campus ministry is in order to know if you are doing what you supposed to do!

So what is a campus ministry?

A great campus ministry is a weekly gathering of the campus missionaries at your school – everyone who wants to share God’s love with their friends.

A campus ministry is NOT a replacement for your youth group! You need to be involved in the youth ministry at your church to be growing in Christ and learning to serve Him.

Your campus ministry is a place where students who are already growing in Christ want to connect with each other to show God’s love and share God’s truth with their school.

Read Acts 1:8, Mark 16:15-16, Matthew 28:18-20, John 20:21

Now write in one sentence what you believe Jesus wants your campus ministry to do in your school.



3. STRUCTURED FORMAT

Your meetings will be far more productive if you know what you are doing each week and a format makes it easier to plan meetings.

We recommend the FISH outline:

- F – Focus:** get the meeting started (5 min)
- I – Inspire:** share something from God’s Word (15 min)
- S – Share:** pray together (15 min)
- H – Hook:** plan your next outreach (20-30 min)

Some questions to help you plan your meetings -

1) How do we want to start (Focus) our meetings?

- Open in prayer? Do a game? Announcements?
- Who will do this each week?

2) Who will share God’s Word (Inspire) each week?

- Different students in the club
- Guest speakers (youth pastors, pastors, etc.)
- What topics do we want to tackle this year?
- If you meet consistently you can plan an entire month or even an entire year’s worth of speakers!

3) How do we want to interact (Share)?

- Small group discussions? Praying for each other?
- Who will lead these times?

4) What outreaches (Hook) do we want to plan this year?

- Fall, Winter, Spring outreaches?
- Two fall, two winter, two spring outreaches?
- One each month?
- Sports teams? Clubs? Unofficial groups?



4. STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP TEAM

Many clubs have a leadership team that includes President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. We recommend a 4 member team based on gifts not on a title/position. For example:

Visionary – someone who's passionate, energetic, and good at motivating and inspiring others

Logistics – someone who is good at details, who takes notes, and provides follow-through

Communication – some good at publicity and marketing

Community – someone who's relational, a people person

A Suggested Plan for Choosing Your Club's Leaders

A club will succeed or fail based on its leaders. That's why choosing the right people is critical. Here's a way to do that.

- 1) Give each member of the club a piece of paper.
- 2) Ask them to answer these questions –
 - a. Nominate someone who loves Jesus with all their heart and lives like Jesus at school.
 - b. Nominate someone who is committed to your campus ministry.
 - c. Nominate students who will fit the leadership roles of your club
- 3) Count the nominations.

5. CONSISTENT MEETINGS

In order to keep people interested and involved you need to meet, if possible,

- The same day
- The same time
- The same place
- every week

If you aren't consistent people will forget when your meetings are and eventually drop out.

Where will your club meet? What day of the week? What time?

6. CREATIVE OUTREACHES

Outreaches are fun, creative ways your club can share God’s love and truth at your school. Here are some examples of outreaches that real clubs have done in our area:

- *Spaghetti dinner for the football team*
- *Pizza party for the soccer team*
- *Wrap party for the musical*
- *Drinks for the basketball team*
- *Movie outreach for the entire school*
- *Bottled water for the wrestling team*
- *Party for the swim team*
- *After- concert party for the band/choir*
- *Ice cream bar for the volleyball team*
- *Lunch or dinner for the musical*
- *Christmas party for a language club*



So here are a few questions to help you plan a great outreach.

1) Who do we want to serve?

- What group of students do we want to do an outreach for?
- What do we want to do to show God’s love to these students?

2) How will we share God’s love?

- What are we going to do to share the Gospel?
- How will we follow up on students who respond?

3) What do we need to set up?

- When and where are we going to do this outreach?
- How are we getting the supplies we need? (food, drinks, etc.)
- What students do we know who are involved in that group?
- Who do we need to talk to arrange this? Coach? Director? Teacher?

STUDENTS BILL OF RIGHTS

guaranteed by the Constitution and Equal Access Act

I. The Right to Meet with Other Religious Students

The Equal Access Act allows students the freedom to meet on campus for the purpose of discussing religious issues.

II. The Right to Identify Your Religious Beliefs through Signs / Symbols

Students are free to express their religious beliefs through signs and symbols on clothing and other personal articles.

III. The Right to Talk About Your Religious Beliefs on Campus

Freedom of speech is a fundamental right mandated by the U.S. Constitution and does not exclude the public school campus.

IV. The Right to Distribute Religious Literature on Campus

Distributing literature on campus may not be restricted simply because it is religious.

V. The Right to Pray on Campus

Students may pray alone or with others so long as it does not disrupt school activities, or is not forced on others.

VI. The Right to Carry or Study Your Bible on Campus

The Supreme Court has said that only state-directed Bible reading is unconstitutional.

VII. The Right to Do Research Papers, Speeches, and Creative Projects with Religious Themes

The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution does not forbid all mention of religion in public schools.

VIII. The Right to be Exempt

Students may be exempt from activities and class content that contradicts their religious beliefs.

IX. The Right to Celebrate or Study Religious Holidays on Campus

Music, art, literature, and drama that have religious themes are permitted as part of the curriculum for school activities if presented in an objective manner as a traditional part of the cultural and religious heritage of the particular holiday.

X. The Right to Meet with School Officials

The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution forbids Congress to make any law that would restrict the right of people to petition the Government (school officials, in this case).

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Need help? Contact Travis Deans at Teens For Christ or Lee Rogers at Youth Alive



Connect with us and other campus ministries in the Pittsburgh region by

- Texting the word HOPE to 86677
- Following 9_month_mission_trip on instagram
- Following @9_M_M_T on twitter
- Liking 9 Month Mission Trip on facebook
- Visiting www.9monthmissiontrip.com or www.teensforchrist.org



You can also contact
Lee Rogers, Penn Del Youth Alive
missionary at

www.reachtheschool.com

<http://youthalive.ag.org/campusmissionary/>