

# FISH

*Guide*



# F

ollow ME and  
you will catch people.

*-Jesus*

*I follow... I fish... I follow... I fish*

Thank you for the opportunity to play a small role in what God is going to do through you and your friends. We have a VISION that every student in your school should have the opportunity to say "YES" to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ at school.

We believe sharing the gospel at school is important! FiSH isn't the only way to do that, but it is a simple strategy and plan to help you communicate the gospel at your school. We hope that you find FiSH to be an effective tool to revolutionize the lives of those around you. Read this guide, find a group of Christian students who are committed to creating outreach environments during non-curriculum times at school and form your First Priority club. The club will meet once each week for 20-30 minutes at your school.

In Luke 5, after an awesome miracle Jesus told Simon Peter, "Don't be afraid, Peter! Walk with me and you will catch people." Peter did, and what he experienced changed his life, the lives of thousands in his day and millions since. Imagine Jesus saying to you... don't freak out, there's nothing to be afraid of. Walk with me...and you WILL catch people. It will change your life, the lives of thousands and millions.

This manual details a simple cycle [Fi.S.H.] that your club will repeat every four weeks. FiSH will help you apply what you learn in church, pray for your friends, encourage other Christians and influence your friends' lives toward a personal relationship with God.

Read this simple plan. And hopefully as you read, God will clarify and expand the vision He has for your ministry in your school.

This manual is the result of years of hard work by people who value sharing the gospel at school and love serving students. God used teenagers to change the world, now he wants to use you.

**FiSH On!**



## Getting Started...What is FiSH?

FiSH is a focused outreach plan that enables local churches to help students create an environment to share the gospel with friends at school. As this strategy takes form, Christian students will initiate and lead a Christian club at their school. These student-led clubs operate under the guidelines of the Equal Access Act. This effort is focused on outreach, with a plan to incorporate students who are reached at school into local churches...your local church. Each club should reflect the personality and giftedness of the students who lead club meetings and the youth worker who guides them.

FiSH is a plan, a process, a system and a framework that will help you start something in your school that God could use to make a huge difference. It's time to make a difference in your school! God's ready, how about you? Just follow the steps...it's so simple!

Student Leaders will...

Plan and implement the Fishing Cycle.

Lead in the follow-up process.

Report Fish Stories & Net Results monthly.

Aahhh, yes! The life of a youth worker...full-time, part-time, volunteer...any way you slice it you come up BUSY...way too busy. It's easy to be so overwhelmed that we become convinced that making a difference at the school down the street is better left to someone else. This is YOUR big opportunity! You have a VERY important role. Whether you're a parent, a college student, a youth pastor or even a grandparent, FiSH can help you fulfill your ministry goals and make your life easier at the same time. How? By turning your students into ministers!

Each club will need a Campus Guide (coach). A Campus Guide (coach) is a youth worker, parent, grandparent, college student or other concerned adult who will get involved at the local school.

Campus Guides (coach) will...

Attend club meetings at the request of the students.

Meet with Student Leaders, as necessary, to plan club meetings.

Provide consistent encouragement and club forms when necessary.



## Is this a Bible Study?

No. We dig the Bible. We read and study it everyday. You should too! However, the focus of the FiSH strategy is giving your friends a chance to say "YES" to Jesus and encouraging the other believers at your school. Think of FiSH as a plan to help your club fulfill the Great Commission.

### What does the logo symbolize?



The dead fish in our logo represents people who are "dead" in sin, floating through life without a relationship with Jesus Christ. The cross in the eye represents hope for new life because of the sacrifice Jesus made for us when He was crucified on a cross to pay the penalty for our sin. The reason the cross is in the eye is because until we see others the way Jesus did we will never love as Jesus loved. Pretty cool, huh?

### Lake, River, Stream or Sea...

Because the FiSH strategy is a framework, it is effective in urban, suburban or rural communities. It will work in your community as well. There are five basic elements that are involved in supporting this strategy.

- A FISH is a student swimming through life without a relationship with Jesus Christ, spiritually dead.
- A FISHERMAN is a Christian student surrounded by lost friends who are spiritually dead.
- A FISHING LICENSE is the Equal Access Act, which provides students the freedom and opportunity to initiate and lead a Christian club at school. For information on the Equal Access Act go to the website below. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Equal\\_Access\\_Act](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Equal_Access_Act)
- A CAMPUS GUIDE (coach) is an adult, pastor, youth pastor, parent, college student, grandparent, etc. who helps students to successfully implement the Fishing Cycle. A Campus Guide should be committed to this role. Students need your support. If a person is unable to fulfill this responsibility, they should notify the Student Leaders so a replacement can be found. The students have all the rights and all the influence. The Guide's job is to provide the support and guidance the Student Lead-



ers need. If your school is lucky enough to have more than one adult coach, count your blessings and have each adult assist 1-2 of the FISH leadership teams. A Guide will seldom fish. Rather, they do whatever is necessary to make sure the trip is successful for the fishermen. The Campus Guide (coach) must meet with the Student Leaders at least once a month to plan the Fishing Cycle. The best time for this meeting is typically between Hook and Focus...we'll explain later.

- A BOAT represents a local church that is full of eager adults who are ready to provide a supportive force for the fishermen. Adults are asking, "What can we do to help"? One word: PRAY!

## The Big Three

**PRAYER:** Nothing great happens apart from prayer. We feel a burden for what we pray for and that moves us to a passionate response. With this in mind, it makes sense have people pray that God would use you. God has given you a position of influence with someone. Pray for that friend! It may be only one or two other students; it could be 436 students, but pray for them...specifically...by name. Remember, when you talk to God about your friends you'll be more likely to talk to your friends about God. Pray for an opportunity to invest in, influence and invite a friend to hear the message of the gospel. If you're not willing to pray for your friends....don't expect to see God move mightily at your school.

**PASSION:** Passion is a byproduct of a vision obtained through prayer. Prayer and passion go hand in hand. Jesus SAW the crowds... and had compassion for them! When we see what God sees WE WILL HAVE COMPASSION for them too! God-centered prayer is connected to God-given passion, which ultimately leads us to influence others toward a relationship with Jesus Christ. We see others the way God sees them when we pray!

**PLAN:** The Fishing Strategy is a four-week cycle that guides students through four distinctive club meetings. We call it a cycle because club meetings occur once a week and the cycle repeats every four weeks. The success of the Fishing Strategy is dependent on outreach-oriented relationships.

The Fishing Cycle club meetings are Focus (small group accountability), Inspire (guest speaker), Share (student-led testimonies) and Hook (gospel presentation).



## Club Leadership

FiSH works best with a leadership structure based on teams that are responsible for one week of the Fishing Cycle so that duties are spread among the students. Each team is responsible for one week of the strategy. There are five leadership teams: Prayer Team, responsible for Focus week. Bless Team who are the encouragers of the group. They are responsible for inspiration week. Serve Team who is responsible for share Week and the Tell Team who is responsible for Hook Week. If you are starting with only a few students, divide responsibilities among the group and add to those teams when more students become involved.

The leadership team for each meeting of the cycle will choose to have a Team Captain, each captain of a team sits on the captains team and meets with parents and the coach to plan the fishing cycle. It is the responsibility of that Team to recruit his or her team before the first club meeting or as the club grows. The size of a team can vary from one to five. The Follow-up Team may have more, if necessary.

The Campus Guide (Coach) should meet with the Student Leaders and/or Team Captains at least every four weeks to make sure the bases are covered for upcoming club meetings. The best time to meet is between Hook and Focus. Doing this allows a club to always have at least four club meetings planned and allows the Coach to affirm the importance of follow-up.

You may also choose to add a special club-planning meeting between each Hook and Focus meeting. In this case the whole club can participate in the planning. If you choose to have a club meeting to plan the following Fishing Cycle, use that time to pray and plan to encourage new believers.

## Getting started....

The first club meeting should be a vision-casting session to introduce the Fishing Cycle to the other Christian students in the school. Use this club meeting to recruit additional students to be involved in leadership. Your second meeting will be the first meeting of the Fishing Cycle....Focus.



## Focus Meetings

This is the first meeting of the Fishing Cycle. A small group environment in which you FOCUS on what God is doing in your life through your local church, personal time alone with God and a friend for whom you are praying.

Every Christian should develop the discipline of accountability. If we're not responsible for the principles we learn in church and how we live, we live only by our own ways and decisions. Accountability helps us become real, authentic and genuine Christians. A Focus Group will help you do that.

Pick your own Focus Group; try to have three to four students, including the Focus Group Leader. When students come to the Focus meeting who are not part of an existing Focus Group encourage them to join a group with someone they know. Have at least one or two groups that you know you can send them to if they don't know anyone yet.

Make a Focus Group Card to pass out to Focus Group Leaders (see example). Complete this card with the name, phone number and e-mail address of the students in your focus group. Return it to your Campus Coach or someone from the Focus Team at the next meeting. Focus Groups should meet weekly, outside of club meetings at a time that is convenient for the group, in addition to the Focus club meeting. Make sure you have Focus Guides that are available weekly to encourage this.

Focus Group Leader _____
Phone _____
Email _____
Focus Group Participant _____
Phone _____
Email _____
Focus Group Participant _____
Phone _____
Email _____
Focus Group Participant _____
Phone _____
Email _____

Keep a box of club resources in the Faculty Volunteer's room so you don't have to worry about leaving the material at home, i.e. Focus Guides, Response Cards, etc. Focus Guides (see Appendix B) should be available at each club meeting. Make plenty of copies. You can always use extras at the next Focus meeting. What should we FOCUS on?



- During each Focus meeting you will discuss 3 Focus Points:
- Biblical principles that you will APPLY TO YOUR LIFE.
  - Scripture you are memorizing in order to RENEW YOUR MIND.
  - A non-Christian friend that YOU ARE PRAYING FOR.

## Focus Points

### APPLYING BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES

Participating in a Focus Group will help you pay attention in church.

Biblical principles learned at church or through personal devotion time become action points to apply to your daily life. Use the Focus Guide as a reference (Appendix B).

### RENEWING THE MIND

The only way to change our actions is to change our mind.  
The only way to change our mind is to fill it with God's words.

Romans 12:2 says, "Don't copy the behavior and customs of the world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think...RENEWING YOUR MIND. Then you will know what God wants you to do, and you will know how good and pleasing and perfect His will really is."

Here are a few great passages you may want to memorize during your Focus weeks throughout the year:

*August-* Hbk. 1:5; Jer. 33:3

*September-* Acts 1:8; Mt. 5:14-15; Lk. 10:2

*October-* Ro. 3:23; Ro. 6:23; Ro. 5:8

*November-* Ro. 10:9-10; Ro. 10:13

*December-* Eph. 2:8-10

*January-* Mt. 18:12-14

*February-* Ro. 1:16-17

*March-* 2 Co. 5:17-21

*April-* 1Jn. 4:9-10; Jn. 13:34-35

*May-* Jn. 10:10; Is. 1:18; Jn. 3:16

*June-* Ro. 10:14-15

*July-* 1 Co. 15:58

### PRAYING FOR A FRIEND

We don't talk to our friends about God,  
because we don't talk to God about our friends.

By telling another Christian the name of the person you are praying for you become responsible to pray for them. And be ready to extend an invitation to that friend when God provides the OPPORTUNITY. Encourage one another to influence your friends toward Christ.



## FISH Prayer Card

The FiSH Prayer Card is a reminder to pray for your non-Christian friend. As you place the sticker on something you see everyday, you will be reminded that if you're following Jesus, you'll be fishing. It's a great tool to remind you to pray for your friends.

### What's the B.A.I.T.?

The B.A.I.T. acronym helps us focus on how we can be used by God. Believe that God wants to do something in the life of your friend. Accept the responsibility to allow God to use you in that person's life. Invest and invite that friend to an environment in which the gospel will be clearly presented. Thank God for what He is going to do.

## INSPIRE MEETING

INSPIRE, the second meeting of the Fishing Cycle, is the perfect opportunity to have a guest or inspirational speaker. The speakers could include ministers, athletes, parents, business people, school faculty or a gifted student. The speaker should not discuss denominational issues. Communicating this important message to the guest speaker is the responsibility of the Campus Guide and Student Leader from the Inspiration Team.

Make sure the guest speaker has a host from the Bless Team that will get them to the meeting room and send a thank you card once the meeting is over. The host should call the guest speaker the day before the club meeting as a reminder. Ask them if they intend to share the gospel. If they do, leave five minutes at the end of the club meeting to complete Response Cards. INSPIRE is a great chance to get creative, so think about what would appeal to and encourage the students in your club. What inspires you to growth? What gets you fired up and motivated for the next step, SHARE?

## SHARE MEETING

SHARE, the third meeting of the Fishing Cycle, is intended to help students recognize the significance of their personal testimony and learn to tell it well. When we understand that our testimony is more about what God has done than our mistakes and poor decisions we'll recognize that every believer has a valuable story.



Each student should complete a Testimony Guide (see Appendix H) before speaking at a club meeting. The Guide and Share Student Leaders should approve each testimony.

The Testimony Guide serves three purposes:

1. To help the student outline their thoughts and what they want to communicate.
2. To help the student stay focused on what they intend to say.
3. To let the Campus Guide and Leadership Team know what will be communicated.

The Testimony Guide brings clarity to what the student wants to communicate and gives them confidence. A copy of the Testimony Guide should be returned to the student so they can follow it while they're sharing. This also helps the student know when to end. The Campus Guide and Student Leaders should determine who and how many students share during the club meeting.

Pray

When the testimonies are completed, encourage the students to gather into Focus Groups and pray out loud for the friend(s) they will invite to the Hook Meeting the next week. Direct them to pray that God would give them an opportunity to invite their friend to the Hook meeting and thank God for what He is going to do.

## HOOK MEETING

HOOK, the fourth meeting of the Fishing Cycle, is an opportunity for Christian students to bring their non-Christian friends to a non-threatening environment where they'll hear a clear presentation of the gospel and have an opportunity to respond in faith. Hook Week never changes...ALWAYS share the gospel! Even if you think everyone there a Christian, make a clear presentation of the gospel every time. No exceptions. A Christian student should share the gospel message.

Even if the student stands and reads the gospel presentation from Appendix K. It's not necessarily how it's shared, but what is shared that is powerful.

Don't open in prayer. Don't plan for worship. Just play popular music, eat and hang out until time for the gospel presentation. Why? Because you don't want to do anything that would cause a non-believer to disconnect because they feel left out, uninformed or different. If this seems unusual to you, remember that this meeting is for those who have not yet placed their faith in Jesus Christ. The mixer type atmosphere disarms people and establishes a casual atmosphere, which makes relationships and communication possible.



Promote the Hook meeting based on relationships. If every participating student is committed to bringing one friend to this club meeting, there will be plenty of students to share the gospel with.

Leave time for EVERYONE to fill out a Response Card at the end of the club meeting! This helps the guests to not feel singled out and helps you keep track of who attended that day.

#### Closing Prayer

The student who dismisses the club in prayer should thank God for those who just committed their lives to Jesus Christ. The prayer could be something as simple as "God, thank you for those you have just invited you into their lives and have become part of your family. We know that all of heaven is celebrating because of their salvation." Applaud as soon as the prayer ends...celebrating what God has done. This sends a message to those who have just committed their lives to Jesus Christ that what they have done is very important.

The students who prayed to commit their lives to Christ may be contemplating whether to fill out the Response Card and turn it in. The prayer and applause will affirm the value of their decision and encourage them. If heaven gets excited about people coming to know Jesus, then we should too!

#### FOLLOW-UP Getting the fish in a boat...your local church

Everyone enjoys catching fish, but few enjoy cleaning them. It's messy, it takes time, but cleaning fish is part of fishing. Discipleship is as important as making a decision, and we have to avoid the "catch and release" mindset at all cost. When new believers start coming to church, getting baptized and getting involved you'll get the attention of your pastor and congregation. It's our responsibility to make sure each new believer is connected with and plugged into a local church where they can grow in their new faith. If a student commits their life to Christ at school and is not followed up with, we've done a disservice to them and the work of Christ.

We're crazy for acronyms, I know, and R.E.E.L. helps us to define the follow-up process:

- Reach a classmate by investing and inviting that person to Hook Week.
- Encourage the new believer to become involved in your church and Focus Group.
- Equip the new believer to share their story and have personal devotions.
- Lead the new believer as you seek to reach additional friends.



The Follow-Up Journey happens in steps:

**Step ONE:**

Collect Response Cards and sort them into three categories:

A - I committed my life to Christ today.

B - I would like to talk with someone about this decision.

C - I have already committed my life to Christ. Singled out and helps you keep track of who attended that day.

**Step TWO:**

Complete a Follow-Up Guide (Appendix A)

The completed Follow-Up Guide should be given to the student who brought the friend to the club meeting. It's the responsibility of that student to nurture the new Christian using the steps in the Follow-Up Guide.

**Step THREE:**

Distribute Response Cards

The original Response Card (Appendix J) should be given to the Campus Guide. The Campus Guide should make sure that the church indicated on the Response Card is notified, if applicable.

## A Final Word

The FiSH strategy is simple. That's why it works. FiSH is a framework. Make any adjustments that are necessary to reach students at your school. If things go well, thank God! If they don't, get help! If you have a question, contact us at [www.firstpriority.org](http://www.firstpriority.org)



Follow-up Guide  
Getting the Fish in the Boat

Name of student who brought their friend \_\_\_\_\_

Nurturing a new believer is an important responsibility. Let God use you and your Focus Group to help this new believer grow spiritually through involvement in a local church and your Focus Group.

This student...

\_\_\_\_\_ Committed his/her life to Christ.

\_\_\_\_\_ Would like to talk with someone about this decision.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Here are some things you should do to help your friend grow as a Christian:

1. Meet with your youth workers and the new believer to affirm their decision to follow Christ.
2. Pray for this new believer daily.
3. Involve this person into your Focus Group.
4. Help this person spend daily time alone with God through a devotional time.
5. Involve this person in the youth group at your church, or the church of their choice.

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Follow-up Guide  
Getting the Fish in the Boat

Name of student who brought their friend \_\_\_\_\_

Nurturing a new believer is an important responsibility. Let God use you and your Focus Group to help this new believer grow spiritually through involvement in a local church and your Focus Group.

This student...

\_\_\_\_\_ Committed his/her life to Christ.

\_\_\_\_\_ Would like to talk with someone about this decision.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Here are some things you should do to help your friend grow as a Christian:

1. Meet with your youth workers and the new believer to affirm their decision to follow Christ.
2. Pray for this new believer daily.
3. Involve this person into your Focus Group.
4. Help this person spend daily time alone with God through a devotional time.
5. Involve this person in the youth group at your church, or the church of their choice.

Focus Guide

As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another. Proverbs 27:17

Write down at least one principle that you learned in church, time alone with God, or your weekly youth service that you will use in your life this week.

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Scripture memory verse: \_\_\_\_\_

Focus Guide Questions:

What challenges or struggles are you facing this week that I can pray for?

What friend are you praying for that you will invite to the Hook meeting?

Meet weekly with your Focus Group, set a time and stick with it every week. Include new believers from Hook meetings into your Focus Group. When your group grows to six, split the group in half. Encourage your Focus Group and the new Christians to be involved in a local church.

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Focus Guide

As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another. Proverbs 27:17

Write down at least one principle that you learned in church, time alone with God, or your weekly youth service that you will use in your life this week.

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Scripture memory verse: \_\_\_\_\_

Focus Guide Questions:

What challenges or struggles are you facing this week that I can pray for?

What friend are you praying for that you will invite to the Hook meeting?

Meet weekly with your Focus Group, set a time and stick with it every week. Include new believers from Hook meetings into your Focus Group. When your group grows to six, split the group in half. Encourage your Focus Group and the new Christians to be involved in a local church.

## Focus Meeting

Date \_\_\_\_\_

The Focus Team Captain is \_\_\_\_\_

*These are the responsibilities that need to be assigned before each Focus meeting:*

Student-led opening prayer...3 minutes...Student Leader \_\_\_\_\_

Student-led testimony...5 minutes...Student Leader \_\_\_\_\_

Focus Group Time...18 minutes

Student-led closing prayer...2 minutes...Student Leader \_\_\_\_\_

Focus Guides...Student Leader \_\_\_\_\_

(Have enough for the entire group to take one Focus Guide)

### Sample Club Meeting

- Student-led opening prayer...3 minutes
- Student-led testimony...5 minutes
- Focus Group Time...18 minutes
- Student-led closing prayer...2 minutes

Students should pick a Focus Guide as they exit the meeting room.



## Inspiration Meeting

Date \_\_\_\_\_

The Inspiration Team Captain is \_\_\_\_\_

*The following are responsibilities the team needs to have covered before their meeting*

Student-led opening prayer...3 minutes...Student Leader \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Speaker Introduction...2 minutes...Student Leader \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Speaker's name and occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Speaker...23 minutes

Host for guest speaker...Student Leader \_\_\_\_\_

Student-led closing prayer...2 minutes...Student Leader \_\_\_\_\_

### Sample Club Meeting

- Student-led opening prayer...3 minutes
- Guest Speaker introduction...2 minutes
- Guest Speaker...15 minutes
- Student-led closing prayer...2 minutes
- Will Response Cards be necessary? Be prepared.

Students should pick a Focus Guide as they exit the meeting room.



## Share Meeting

Date \_\_\_\_\_

The Share Team Captain is \_\_\_\_\_

*The following are responsibilities the team needs to have covered before each Share meeting.*

Student-led opening prayer...3 minutes...Student Leader \_\_\_\_\_

The first student to share will be...5 minutes... \_\_\_\_\_

The second student to share will be...5 minutes... \_\_\_\_\_

The third student to share will be...5 minutes... \_\_\_\_\_

Prayer Time for Lost Friends...8 minutes...led by Student Leader \_\_\_\_\_

Student-led closing prayer...2 minutes...Student Leader \_\_\_\_\_

As always, FiSH Prayer Cards are available from [www.campusrevolution.net](http://www.campusrevolution.net) or use the Product Order Form in Appendix M.

### Sample Club Meeting

- Student-led opening prayer...3 minutes
- Student-led testimonies...15 minutes
- Prayer time for friends...8 minutes
- Student-led closing prayer...2 minutes

Students should pick a Focus Guide as they exit the meeting room.



# Hook Meeting

Date \_\_\_\_\_

The Hook Team Captain is \_\_\_\_\_

*The following are responsibilities the team needs to have covered before each Hook meeting*

Student bringing music; CD player, tapes etc. Is... \_\_\_\_\_

Student(s) bringing food and drinks:

Student \_\_\_\_\_ is bringing \_\_\_\_\_

Student \_\_\_\_\_ is bringing \_\_\_\_\_

Student \_\_\_\_\_ is bringing \_\_\_\_\_

Student \_\_\_\_\_ is bringing \_\_\_\_\_

Person presenting the gospel will be... \_\_\_\_\_

Student providing and distributing Response Cards is: \_\_\_\_\_

Student providing pencils for those who need them is: \_\_\_\_\_

Students responsible for promotion are:

Student \_\_\_\_\_

Student \_\_\_\_\_

Student \_\_\_\_\_

Student-led closing prayer...1 minute...Student Leader \_\_\_\_\_

## Sample Club Meeting

- Music, food, and hanging out...12 minutes
- Student-led welcome...2 minutes
- Presentation of the gospel...8 minutes
- Students fill out Response Cards...7 minutes
- Student-led closing prayer...1 minute

*Turn in Response Cards as you exit the meeting room.  
Students should pick a Focus Guide as they exit the meeting room.*



## Follow-Up Getting the Fish in the boat

The Follow-up Team Captain is \_\_\_\_\_

Collect and sort Response Cards:

Student responsible for enlisting a team of students to collect and sort though Response Cards at end of meeting is:

Fill out Follow-up Guides

Student responsible for getting team to fill out guides for those who made commitments is:

Give Follow-up Guides to friend of student making decision:

Make sure the friend who invited the new believer is given a completed Follow-up Guide. Who is responsible for this?

Collecting original Response Cards and delivering them to the Campus Guide is the responsibility of:

Reporting Fish Stories and Net Results to your City Director. If no City Director is present, email them to Steve with FPOA: [steve@firstpriority.org](mailto:steve@firstpriority.org). He will follow up with encouragement and council cause he is good at that.

*Remember, the R.E.E.L. acronym illustrates the process of complete follow-up:*

- Reach a classmate by investing in and inviting that person to the Hook meeting.
- Encourage the new believer to become involved in your church and Focus Group.
- Equip the new believer to share their story and have personal devotions.
- Lead the new believer as you seek to reach additional friends.



## The Power of a Story Testimony Guide

Describe the situation in which you came to faith in Christ. How did you come to realize your need for Him?

How is your life different because of your relationship with Jesus Christ?

Has your relationship with Jesus Christ made an impact on your family and friends? If so, how?

How would you like God to use you in the lives of your friends?

Additional questions to help you communicate your personal testimony:

1. How has your relationship with God influenced the way you make decisions about what is right or wrong.
2. Has God used an older Christian in your life to keep you focused on following Jesus? If yes, explain.
3. How has having committed Christian friends effected your daily walk with Jesus?
4. Do you believe that your relationships are healthier because of the role God plays in your life, explain.

Complete this guide on the first Sunday of each month. Write out your testimony without looking at previously completed guides. This will help you learn your story and be able to communicate it effectively. Ask a friend to read it each month. Submit to the Guide or someone on the share team at least one week before the Share meeting.



## Gospel Presentation

Welcome to (your club name). My name is (your name) I want to take a few minutes tell you about the most important decision I have ever made.

God does exist and he has a special plan for each of our lives. That special plan begins with getting to know him personally. We were born with our backs turned toward God. To make things worse we repeatedly choose to run our lives as if God doesn't exist. This decision to reject God deserves death. But...Jesus Christ, God's son, died in our place, as our substitute (Romans 5:8). Because of his sacrifice our debt has been paid. Now we can have a personal relationship with God by placing everything that we ever hope to be in his hands and allowing him to shape us into the kind of people he wants us to be.

This is a decision that no one can make for us. We must each decide to embrace the fact that Jesus is the Son of God and make him the Lord of our lives or...reject him and turn our backs on the price he paid so that we could have a relationship with God.

To have a personal relationship with God we must each decide to...

F- Forget your past. God has made it possible for us to be made brand new (2 Corinthians 5:17). We have all decided to run our lives our own way. In the process, we leave God out or reject Him completely. We are all created for a purpose and the purpose is to have a personal relationship with God, our Creator. God wants to wipe away all of our previous wrongdoing and give us a brand new start (2 Peter 3:9).

I- Invite forgiveness. The first step is to recognize that we have failed to live up to God's perfect standard (Romans 3:10-11 & 23) and invite Him to forgive us.

S- Surrender your life. God wants you to turn your back on the way you have made decisions and lived your life. The Bible calls this repentance. God wants to be the center of your life. He wants everything to revolve around Himself. And, the amazing thing is that only He can truly sustain every single aspect of our lives. When we place our faith in what Jesus Christ did for us by taking our punishment God. Ezekiel 14:6, Jeremiah 25:5, Acts 26:20, 1 Peter 3:11

H- Honor God. God is honored when we walk with Him, follow His path, and recognize the wisdom that He extends to us. Essentially, God is honored when our lifestyle, our actions, our ambitions, and our attitudes reflect His moral code and His love for all people. Philippians 1:27, Colossians 3:23-24

If you would like to give God his rightful place at the center of your life, you can do that by expressing to him in a prayer. He is listening to the desire of your heart and will not turn any of us away. This is the prayer...God, I am aware that I have violated your principles...please forgive me. I turn to you and place my trust in the payment that Jesus made when He died for me. I surrender my life to you and will honor you in all do from this moment on. In Jesus' Name, Amen"

If you prayed this prayer, we want to welcome you to God's family. Please tell the person you came with about it and indicate your decision on a Response Card. We meet each week at (meeting time and place). We would like to help you further understand what it means to follow Jesus by becoming involved in a local church. We are here to support you and share the love of God with our school. You can count on us to help you stand for Jesus.

# Response Card

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of a church, which one? \_\_\_\_\_

Who invited you today? \_\_\_\_\_

Check the following that best describes your response:

\_\_\_\_\_ I prayed today and committed my life to Christ.

\_\_\_\_\_ This is a very important decision and I would like to talk to someone about it.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have already committed my life to Christ.

*List prayer requests on the back of this card.*

# Response Card

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of a church, which one? \_\_\_\_\_

Who invited you today? \_\_\_\_\_

Check the following that best describes your response:

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*List prayer requests on the back of this card.*