

NIGHT ONE

Night one of Life Group is different from any other night. In order to go deep with students, we have to start shallow!

Say: What a great first service of camp! Tonight's group time will be a great chance to debrief the service, and just get to know each other. Before we do any icebreakers, let's talk about our session tonight.

Say: What was your favorite part of tonight?

Say: What questions do you have from tonight's session? (Use this time to answer any questions that your students have. If you don't know ALL the answers to their questions, that's OK!)

Say: What did you learn about God today?

Say: Was there a moment that you sensed the Holy Spirit was trying to get your attention? (If so, what was He saying?)

Say: What are you looking forward to this week?

ICE BREAKERS

Two Truths and a Lie

Direct each person to make three statements about themself: two true statements and one lie. For example: "I've never broken four bones. I have 10 siblings. I was born in Utah." The group tries to guess which statement is the lie.

Human knot

Prompt everyone in your group to stand in a circle. Each person must hold the hands of two people not standing to your immediate left or right. This creates a human knot. From here, let the group untangle the knot into a circle again. The icebreaker ends when there is no longer a knot.

Most Unique

Go around the room and have each person share something that makes him or her unique or unusual, such as "I've never left the state I was born in" or "I am one of 6 kids." The more unique the facts, the more fun the icebreaker becomes.

WORLD AND YOU CAN BE A PART OF IT

OVERVIEW LESSON 1: REVIVAL IN MY LIFE

MAIN POINT

- Jesus Redeems our Brokenness

LIVE IT OUT

- There is nothing in my life God cannot redeem. Because God loves me, Jesus died for me!

FOCUS VERSE: 1 TIMOTHY 1:15

- "This saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance: 'Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners'—and I am the worst of them.

ALL SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

- Acts 9:1-19; Colossians 1:15-17; Romans 5:8-11; 1 Timothy 1:15

PREP

- Read Acts 9:1-19; 1 Timothy 1:15.
- Spend time praying for each of your students by name.
- Pray for today to be the day of salvation for any of your students who haven't yet decided to follow Jesus.

LESSON 1: REVIVAL IN MY LIFE

Say: Hey, everybody! I'm excited to spend more time in God's Word together. What was everybody's favorite part of today? (Give space for an answer.)

Say: **Before we dive in, let's review the main idea from yesterday's sermon. What was the main point of yesterday?** (Suggested Answer: God is a God of *Revival.*)

ENGAGE

ICEBREAKER: WONDERFUL COUNSELOR

Wonderful Counselor is the SL version of the game "Psychiatrist."
 "Psychiatrist" is a great group game that encourages creativity, acting skills, and observation. It's all about having a good time and trying to keep the psychiatrist guessing while maintaining the chosen condition or quirk throughout the game.

INSTRUCTIONS

Say: Choose someone in the group to be the "psychiatrist." The psychiatrist leaves the room or covers their ears so he or she can't hear the initial discussion about the condition. The psychiatrist needs to be unaware of the specific quirk the "patients" will be mimicking.

Say: Decide on a condition or quirk the rest of the group will experience. Choose an unusual or peculiar condition the group will pretend to have during the game. The condition can be anything, like speaking in rhyme, acting like a specific character or inanimate objects, or using a certain word or phrase frequently. Make sure all patients know and understand the chosen condition.

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Say: Now, the rest of the group will sit in a circle, and the psychiatrist will return to the room. The game begins, and the psychiatrist tries to figure out what condition or quirk the group is pretending to have by asking questions.

Say: The group will respond to the psychiatrist's questions while maintaining the chosen behavior or quirk. Patients must not directly state what their condition is but should act it out in their responses.

Say: The psychiatrist will continue to ask questions, trying to observe and analyze the group's responses to identify the common condition. The group can be creative and use misdirection to make it more challenging for the psychiatrist.

Leader Note: Whew! That was a lot! Here is an example to help you and your group understand the game!

EXAMPLE

- The condition is: that you are all different kitchen appliances.
- The psychiatrist might ask, "Sam, how has your day been?"
- Sam, knowing he is a blender, could answer, "My head has just been spinning all morning! I've been trying to eat healthy to help, but sometimes everything is all just really hard."
 - Helpful tip: it can be helpful, as the psychiatrist, to repeat the same question to a couple of different people to try to see if you can find a pattern.
- The game can end in one of two ways:
 - The psychiatrist successfully identifies the condition. reveals it to the group, and a new psychiatrist is chosen for the next round.
 - If the psychiatrist is unable to figure out the condition within a reasonable time, the patients reveal it, and a new psychiatrist is chosen for the next round.

Play, allowing players to take turns being the psychiatrist.
 Continue as interest allows.

IMPART

Say: Today we are going to read a story about a man who was in a really, really broken condition when he met Jesus. In 1 Timothy 1:15, this man said, "This saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance: 'Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners'—and I am the worst of them."

Say: The person who said this about himself was named Paul. Does anyone know what Paul's life was like before he met Jesus? Why would he call himself "the worst of them"?

(Suggested answer: His name was Saul [You may know him by his Latin name, Paul.] Saul was there when the first person was killed for professing faith in Jesus [Stephen was stoned in Acts 7.] "Saul, however, was ravaging the church. He would enter house after house, drag off men and women, and put them in prison." [Acts 8:3] Saul was really bad news for anyone who was deciding to follow Jesus.)

Say: Does anyone know what was really significant about Paul's life after he met Jesus?

(Suggested answer: Out of the 27 books in the New Testament in the Bible, 13 are believed to have been written by Paul: Romans, 1 and 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 and 2 Thessalonians, 1 and 2 Timothy, Titus, and Philemon. Throughout the book of Acts, we read of Paul traveling throughout the Middle East into Europe sharing the good news about Jesus with everyone, no matter the cost!)

Say: Wow! It is pretty wild to imagine someone who was murdering and arresting Christians becoming one of the most influential authors and missionaries after meeting Jesus!

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Say: Let's read about how Saul met Jesus and was transformed into a powerful missionary, a powerful apostle, or an amazing evangelist. Everyone, turn in your Bible to Acts 9:1-19.

Read Acts 9:1-19.

Leader Note: Here are some ideas for reading the passage:

- Choose different members of your group read as the narrator, Saul, Jesus, the men traveling with Saul, and Ananias. Then act out the story.
- Call on volunteers to read aloud the different sections of the passage.

Say: What was something that stuck out to you in this story?

Say: Hearing the story of the transformation of Paul is wild. He was given a new name, one that was clean from his past! And, guess what! We are sinful and broken, just like Paul. No, we aren't going around putting people in jail for loving Jesus, but the Bible says that we all have brokenness and need mending. Romans 3:23 says, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

Say: What we see about Jesus in this story is that He redeems, and just like it says in Romans 3:23, we all need redeeming! That's our Main Point for today: Jesus redeems our brokenness.

Say: Looking at the passage in your Bible and what we've learned about Paul's life, what are some things we learn about Jesus redeeming brokenness?

(Suggested answer: There is no amount of brokenness that Jesus cannot redeem. When we decide to follow Jesus, we are transformed. Jesus redeemed us for His plan and purpose for us—to be a part of His rescue plan for the world!]

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Say: I keep saying the word *redeem*. Jesus redeems our brokenness. What does the word *redeem* mean?

(Suggested answer: Synonyms—save, retrieve, recover. Definition—gain or regain possession of [something] in exchange for payment. Metaphor—when you are buying something online, have you seen a button that says, "Redeem gift card"? You can use the gift card to pay the price or purchase what you want.]

Say: So, Jesus saved, retrieved, recovered, and paid for us to be brought out of our brokenness. But this does raise the question: how does Jesus actually redeem our brokenness?

Say: The Bible says that in the beginning, God made everything! He made the trees and grass, birds and fish, even the _____ (reference something at camp like the beach, mountains, lake, etc.). And He also made people in His image. He made you and me, and He said we were very good. The Bible also says that Jesus was with God when He made everything! Can someone read Colossians 1:15-17 for us?

Read Colossians 1:15-17.

Say: When God created Adam and Eve, they lived in a perfect and right relationship with God. But then we read in Genesis that Satan came and tempted Eve and Adam, and they chose to sin.

Say: Does anyone know what it means to sin?

(Suggested answer: Choosing the opposite of God.)

Say: Sin broke the relationship that Adam and Eve had with God. We read all throughout the Old Testament that there was nothing the people of God could do to earn a perfect relationship with God again.

Say: The same is still true today! There is nothing we can do to fix or earn a relationship with Him. We need a Savior to redeem the brokenness!

Say: Because God loves us so much, He sent His one and only Son, Jesus, to live a perfect life on earth and to die on the cross for all of our sins. Three days after Jesus died on the cross, He was raised back to life, which defeated sin and death forever! Jesus died so that we could be purchased out of our sin and brokenness!

Say: Let's all turn to Romans 5:8-11 together. Will someone read that for us?

Read Romans 5:8-11.

Say: God loved us even when we were *still* sinning! Paul was the one who wrote Romans; he was saved while he was still a sinner! Paul, myself, you ... we didn't get we are all broken, imperfect, and in need of a Savior. We don't deserve forgiveness, but God sent Jesus even still. While we were still sinning, Jesus died to save us and reconcile us back to a relationship with God.

IMPACT

To close down the lesson, give students some time to reflect, either individually (a short quiet time where students write in their books), collectively (a group-sharing time), or both.

CHRIST

Say: Have you decided to follow Jesus? Like the Bible says in Romans 10:9, "If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." Jesus wants to be your Savior and redeem you from your brokenness!

Say: If you have never decided to trust in Jesus as your Savior, today can be that day! Jesus offers eternal life to all who confess with their mouths and believe in their hearts that He is Lord! If you sense God leading you to give Him your life, take time to pray.

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Say: Tell Jesus that you believe in Him. Admit that you are a sinner, and ask Him to forgive you of your sins. Ask Jesus to save you. And if you make this decision, tell your leader! Your leader can answer questions and celebrate what God is doing in your life! Surrendering your life to Jesus is the greatest decision you could ever make!

Say: If you have decided to follow Jesus, He will never be done redeeming you from brokenness! The Bible says in 2 Corinthians 3:18, "We all, with unveiled faces, are looking in a mirror at the glory of the Lord and are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory; this is from the Lord who is the Spirit."

Say: Jesus wants to continue to redeem you and transform you daily into His image! Pray and thank Jesus for dying for you and for redeeming you. Thank Jesus for the ways He is transforming you to be more like Him.

COMMUNITY

Say: God wants to use us to redeem the brokenness of the people around us. Take a moment and think about some you want to share the good news of the gospel. God wants to partner with you to do it!

Say: It can be scary and nerve-racking to tell someone you know about Jesus. Pray and ask God to give you the boldness to share about Jesus.

CULTURE

Say: Jesus redeeming us was not casual. His death on the cross was painful and cost Him everything. He was rejected and ridiculed by the very people He was destined to rescue. As followers of Jesus, we want to grow in holiness, becoming more like Jesus the longer we follow Him. As followers of Jesus, we can expect to face rejection from the world like Jesus did, knowing our gain is found in having a revived soul.

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Say: Jesus changes us from the inside out. What things were you doing before today that you want to turn from? How can you choose to live differently because of Jesus?

Leader Note: The Holy Spirit could bring different sins or habits that students want to surrender to Christ! This is a great time to pause and have students pray for one another. (It is recommended to break up by gender when praying in small groups.)

CREATED TO ... (I.E. WHO AM I NOW THAT I KNOW THIS?)

Say: Just like the life of Paul, when you receive the redemption of Jesus, He makes you brand new. Reflect on a time you experienced God's revival in your life or think about someone you know who has had his or her life changed by God.

Say: Spend some time writing down words that describe what it was like before Jesus (ex: anxiety, depression, anger, hopelessness). Then, write down how God's revival changed everything (ex: peace, hope, new life).

Pray and dismiss.

Suggested Prayer:

Jesus, thank You so much that You redeem our brokenness! We will never be able to thank You, praise You, worship You or honor You enough for dying for our sins and redeeming us back to God. [If someone in your group made a decision to follow Jesus, insert: Jesus, we celebrate _____ (insert name) with You! Thank You for saving _____ (insert name) today!] We thank You for continuing to redeem us when we mess up. Help us grow in holiness and righteousness as we follow You, Jesus, throughout our lives. Amen!

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LIFE GROUP: REFLECT & PREPARE

Each night, you and your Life Group will reflect on the day, and pray for the night service to come. Use this page as a guide for your group.

REFLECT

Say: What was your favorite part of today?

Say: What is one new thing you have learned about who God is today?

Say: What are you hoping for going into tonight's service?

PREPARE

Say: Thank you all for sharing about today! Now we are going to spend some time in prayer. In a group setting like this, sometimes we can feel nervous to pray! But I'm going to ask us to take steps outside of our comfort zone this week.

Say: Tonight we are going to pray out loud. Remember, this type of prayer is just talking to God. There is nothing we can do to impress Him, so we don't need pretty words. I'm going to assign some things to pray for tonight.

Prayer Prompts

- Read Psalm 68:4-6.
- Thank God for bringing revival to individuals.
- Ask God for the lost sons and daughters in the room to receive salvation.
- Pray for leaders and students in the room to heal from hurts.
- Pray for no distractions.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to use the pastor and worship leader.

OVERVIEW

LESSON 2: REVIVAL IN MY COMMUNITY

MAIN POINT

- When revival happens in us, it can happen in our community.

LIVE IT OUT

- Because Jesus saved me, I get to tell others about Him. I am part of His revival plan!

FOCUS VERSE: LUKE 5:20

- "Seeing their faith he said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven."

ALL SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

- Acts 16:25-34; Luke 5:17-31; 2 Corinthians 5:20

PREP

- Read Acts 16:25-34 and Luke 5:17-31.
- Spend time praying and thanking God for the ways He is revealing Himself this week to your group as the God of revival.
- Welcome the Holy Spirit into the space where your group will be meeting. Pray and ask God to bring revival to your group today in a way that will bring revival to your community.

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LESSON 2: REVIVAL IN MY COMMUNITY

Say: Welcome back to Life Group! Before we get started, let's review the Main Idea from the past two days. What was the Main Idea on Day 1?

(Suggested Answer: Day 1—God is a God of Revival)

Say: **OK, great! Can anyone tell me yesterday's Main Idea?** [Suggested Answer: Day 2—Jesus Redeems our Brokenness.]

ENGAGE

ICEBREAKER: BUILDING FAMILY

- The object of the game is to have the biggest family by guessing the names of other players' secret identities. Tear off small, foldable sheets of paper, and distribute one to each student. Instruct each student to secretly select the name of a person to assume the identity. This person could be a famous athlete, a world leader, an actor/actress, a renowned author, etc. Direct the students to write that person's name down on the piece of paper. Once the students have recorded who they are on the paper, collect all the pieces of paper.

INSTRUCTIONS

Read each name aloud so that every student hears and knows all the names. (You can do this once or twice over so that everyone knows the names.) You will only read through the names once or twice, so it's important that students remember!

Allow one student to guess what the identity of another student is. If the student correctly guesses the identity of whom he or she is asking, that person will join the "family." Guess again to add another person to the family. If the student guesses incorrectly, it is the person who was asked the identity's turn. The game keeps going until there is only one identity left unnamed, and therefore, has the biggest family.

FRAME AND YOU CAN BE A PART

Once a person joins someone else's family, the family works together to remember the remaining identities and strategize together.

IMPART

Say: Today we are talking about revival and when revival might happen. Revival happens around us, in our communities, and in our homes. Remind me, what does *revival* mean?

(Suggested answer: to live again, to regain life)

Say: So, like we talked about yesterday, when Jesus revives our brokenness, we are made to live again. We can bring this "new life" to our community to see others brought back to life too!

Say: We're going to read a story about a man whose life was radically changed when he met Jesus. Because of this man's change, his whole family experienced revival!

Say: In this story, Paul, who we learned about yesterday, and Silas have been put in prison in Philippi for spreading the good news about Jesus! Let's all turn in our Bibles to Acts 16:25-34.

Read Acts 16:25-34.

Say: What stands out to you in this passage?

Say: It is amazing to see how this man was so impacted and changed by the hope of Jesus that his entire family was saved and baptized immediately! This man knew that Paul and Silas had been beaten and arrested because of their faith in Jesus, yet the truth of the gospel revived him in such a powerful way that the difficult realities of being a Jesus-follower didn't matter. That is truly amazing! God used Paul and Silas' bad situation to bring revival!

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Say: Revival is not limited to individuals. When we surround ourselves with other believers, we see how the Holy Spirit among the people in a community can spread into a full city revival. The Holy Spirit used the worship of Paul and Silas in prison to bring revival to the jailer and his family, and He can do the same in our lives too!

Say: And revival is not limited to Bible times! Just last February, revival happened at Asbury University. A typical Wednesday morning Chapel service turned into a multi-week outpouring of God's presence. It was estimated that over 50,000 people came to Asbury's campus to worship God, repent of sin, be filled with the Holy Spirit, and to be revived. Revival was happening in the Bible, and revival is happening *now*!

Say: There's another story we're going to read together about some amazing friends who were used by God to revive their friends in a way that impacted their community! Turn in your Bible to Luke 5:17-31.

Read Luke 5:17-31.

Leader Note: Here is an idea for reading the passage:

- Call on a few people to retell sections of the Bible story in their own words (Men bringing their friend to Jesus, Jesus forgiving sins and healing a paralyzed man, the Pharisees' response to Jesus healing the paralyzed man, Jesus dining with the sinners)

Say: Take a moment to reflect on and study the Scripture. What does this passage teach us about Jesus?

- He has compassion. (v. 20)
- He has the power to forgive sins and heal. (v. 17, 24)
- He lived according to the will of God, not religious practices or the expectations of the religious leaders. (v. 22-24,31)
- He has a plan and purpose for our lives, even when we are still sinning.
 (v. 27)

Say: What does this passage teach us about people or us?

- Our faith can move God to action. (v. 20)
- We cannot give up when we do not see immediate revival in our friends and family; our persistence matters. (v. 18-19)
- God brings revival in unexpected ways; we do not want to be like the Pharisees. (v. 21,30)
- Our faith and the way we live our lives can cause our community to be in awe of God. (v. 26)

Say: Now, can you imagine? You are sitting, listening to Jesus teach amazing things you have never heard before. Then all of a sudden, pieces of the roof start to fall in! In Bible times, the roof of a house would have been made from thick, dried mud and grasses. This would have been a taxing ordeal to tear a hole big enough to lower your friend down before Jesus.

Say: Don't you think that at least one, if not all, of the friends would have had a moment of thinking, *It's too crowded, this won't work*. Or even, *Jesus won't have time for us. But* their faith was greater than any doubt they may have experienced!

Say: It is so important to have friends around us who love Jesus. Their love can help encourage us to live by faith in a way that not only brings revival to our friends but also to our entire communities! A movement of radical revival in the community is something only God can do, but we get to be a part of His plan to redeem the whole world when we live life boldly with Him!

IMPACT

To close down the lesson, give students some time to reflect, either individually (a short quiet time where students write in their books), collectively (a group-sharing time), or both.

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Leader Note: Just like the jailer in our story today, we can believe in the Lord Jesus and be saved! After deciding to follow Jesus, our next step in our walk with God is to be baptized. Today would be a great day to connect with students about taking that next step.

CHRIST

Say: Imagine your friends in your Life Group just carried you to the feet of Jesus. He is sitting right in front of you and has something to say.

Say: Prayer is a conversation with Jesus! Ask Jesus what He wants to say to you right now.

Say: Remember, Jesus loves you so much! If you get a sense that Jesus is telling you something that isn't full of love or something that does not align with what the Bible says, then that is *not* Jesus' thoughts toward you. "Full of love" means more than just things that make you happy. Sometimes God is like a loving parent! He corrects and convicts us when we choose things that do not honor Him, but through conviction, He can show us His love and kindness.

COMMUNITY

Say: Pray, and ask God to show you godly friends that He wants you to be close to, encourage, and walk with today. Which friends will help you share the gospel with others?

CULTURE

Say: Paul and Silas, the friends who carried their friend to Jesus... These people were living some radical lives compared to the culture around them! But, they were just regular people who had been forever changed by an extraordinary God. In order to make an impact in our culture, you have to live differently than our culture. Because you follow Jesus, you

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can be a culture creator for His Kingdom! What kind of Kingdom culture do you want to create in your youth group, friend group, schools, and so forth?

Say: Write down some practical things you can take to make an impact on those around you today.

CREATED TO ... (I.E. WHO AM I NOW THAT I KNOW THIS?)

Read 2 Corinthians 5:20.

Say: Now that revival has happened in you, 2 Corinthians 5:20 says your identity is an ambassador for Christ! Write out what it means for you to be an ambassador for God by using Scripture to build out your "job description." (Suggested Examples: 2 Corinthians 5:20; Isaiah 43:1; Galatians 4:4-7, 2 Corinthians 6:16; Ephesians 1:4-7; Ephesians 2:13; John 15:15-16; Matthew 5:14; Matthew 28:18-20)

Pray and dismiss.

Suggested Prayer

 Thank You, God, for the gift of friends who we get to follow after You together! Thank You that because we've experienced revival, we now get to be a part of others coming to know You. We ask that revival would come to _____ (town name). And that __ (town name) would look like heaven these days because of the saving and transformational hope of Jesus. Amen!

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LIFE GROUP: REFLECT & PREPARE

Each night you and your Life Group will reflect on the day, and pray for the night service to come. Use this page as a guide for your group.

REFLECT

Say: What was your favorite part of today?

Say: What is one new thing you have learned about Jesus today?

Say: What is something you are hoping to gain from/during tonight's service?

PREPARE

Say: Thank you all for sharing about today! Now we are going to spend some time in prayer. I know we tried praying out loud yesterday, so we are going to do that again! Remember we are just talking to God, and He *wants* to hear from us.

Prayer Prompts

- Read John 14: 6-14.
- Thank Jesus for making a way for you to have a relationship with Him.
- Ask God to lead people who don't know Him to repentance.
- Ask God to strengthen your community at home.
- Pray for no distractions.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to use the pastor and worship leader.

OVERVIEW

LESSON 3: REVIVAL IN MY GENERATION

MAIN POINT

- Through God's power, my obedience can help revival spread to my generation.

LIVE IT OUT

- Because I am filled with the Holy Spirit, get to be a part of spreading revival to my generation!

FOCUS VERSE: ACTS 2:47

- "Praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."

ALL SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

- <u>John 14:15-16</u>, <u>Acts 1-2</u>

PREP

- Read John 14:15-16 and Acts 1-2
- Spend time praying and thanking God for the gift of the Holy Spirit and how He empowers us to see revival happen.
- Welcome the Holy Spirit into the space where your group will be meeting; pray and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal himself to the members of your group today through the word of God.

LESSON 3: REVIVAL IN MY GENERATION

Say: Welcome back to Life Group! Today is our last day of Bible study. Before we get started, let's review the Main Idea from the past three days. What was the main idea on Day 1?

(Suggested answer: Day 1—God Is a God of Revival)

Say: OK, great! Can anyone tell me Day 2s Main Idea?

(Suggested answer: Day 2-Jesus Redeems Our Brokenness)

Say: All right, last one. What was yesterday's Main Idea?

(Suggested answer: Day 3—When revival happens in us, it can happen in our community)

ENGAGE

ICEBREAKER: EXTREME "SIMON SAYS"

INSTRUCTIONS

The group stands in a circle and takes turns calling out the instructions. One person says, "Simon says, <u>...</u>." Each student decides whether or not to begin the next instruction with "Simon says, <u>...</u>." Play continues to the next person, and so on throughout the group. Students should only respond to those instructions that begin with "Simon says."

Students should sit down:

- If they respond to instructions that don't begin with "Simon says".
- If they do not respond to instructions that begin with "Simon says".
- If they don't have an instruction by the time it's their turn around the circle.
- The last student standing wins.

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IMPART

Say: Today, we're talking about how through God's power and my obedience, revival can spread to my generation.

Say: What are some of the words that come to mind when you hear the word obedience?

(Suggested answers: obey, orders, parents, instructions, consequences, training. Biblical definition: to submit to authority. 1 John 5:3 says, For this is what love for God is: to keep his commands. And his commands are not a burden.")

Say: Sometimes, the word obedience can give us a weird feeling inside ... likely because it means coming under someone else's authority! We are human! Sometimes obedience is hard if the person in authority is not always godly or good.

Say: But when the Bible talks about obeying God, it means to submit under Jesus' authority in our life!

Say: We're going to read the Bible today in the book of Acts. Let's start in Acts I to learn why Jesus *has* authority that we submit to. Turn in your Bible to Acts 1.

Read Acts 1:1-11.

Say: So we see in these verses, that Jesus is given authority by God when He ascends into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God. Can someone read John 14:15-16 for us? Keep your finger here in Acts—we'll be right back here soon—but turn to John 14. Who wants to read?

Read John 14:15-16.

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Say: What stands out to you in these verses?

Say: You see, Jesus doesn't want us to obey Him because He wants to manipulate us. In this verse, Jesus is delivering promises of His Kingdom. What Jesus is saying here is, "If you love Me with all of your heart, obedience will flow from your love for Me." We obey Jesus because we love Him, and the more we love Him, the more we want to obey Him.

Say: The disciples had a choice in Acts! Before Jesus ascended into heaven, Paul wrote, "He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for the Father's promise" (Acts 1:4) A promise of what? A promise of what we just read about in John 14—the Holy Spirit.

Say: Let's turn back to Acts and start reading in Acts 2:1 to see if the disciples chose to obey.

Read Acts 2:1-21.

Say: What is something that stood out to you in these verses?

Say: Can you imagine this moment in history? There are people gathered from all over the world, and then all of a sudden, the Holy Spirit gives Jesus' followers the gift of being able to speak in other languages. All of the people from the other nations began hearing them speak in their language and could understand them! Peter explains why this is so significant in Acts 2:17-21. Let's read that again.

Read Acts 2:17-21.

Say: According to these verses, what is so significant about what happened when the Holy Spirit was given?

(Suggested answers: The Holy Spirit is given to all people—males and females, rich and poor, old and young. The Holy Spirit provides wonders and signs in the heavens and on earth to show God's power.)

Say: So, what we've read so far is: that Jesus gave His followers instructions to stay in Jerusalem until God sent the Holy Spirit. They obeyed and stayed in Jerusalem where the Holy Spirit came like a wind and gave them the gift to speak to all people gathered from all over the world.

Say: So now what do the disciples do? Do they run back home? Do they just go on with their day? On to the next activity?

Say: No! Of course not. But you know, that would have made a lot of sense for them to choose to do just that. Remember, Jesus was *just* killed by these people who are hearing them speak in different languages. It would have made sense for them to be too afraid to do anything else. But let's keep reading to see what happens next.

Read Acts 2:22-36.

Say: What is Peter talking about in these verses? What do we learn about Jesus?

(Suggested answers:

- Jesus was the Son of God who they wrongfully killed. (v. 22-23)
- Jesus was the Promised Messiah, prophesied about in the Old Testament. (v. 25-31)
- Jesus was raised from the dead. (v. 24)
- Jesus has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and He has poured out what you both see and hear.(v. 32-33))

Read Acts 2:37-41.

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STUDENT & MOVEMENT IS HAPPENING AROUND LIFE 2024 THE WORLD AND YOU CAN BE A PART OF IT.

Say: What stands out to you in this passage?

Say: Peter was filled with the Holy Spirit, and then boldly shared the good news that Jesus had died and been raised to life to save all people! That day, over 3,000 people repented of their sins, believed Jesus is Lord, and were baptized! It is amazing how the Holy Spirit empowered Peter to be a part of revival. And that's true for us today too. The Holy Spirit empowers us to obey God so that we can be a part of His revival plan for our generation.

IMPACT

To close down the lesson, give students some time to reflect, either individually (a short quiet time where students write in their books), collectively (a group-sharing time), or both.

CHRIST

Say: John 14:16-17 says, "And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever. He is the Spirit of truth. The world is unable to receive him because it doesn't see him or know him. But you do know him because he remains with you and will be in you." The moment you decided to follow Jesus, you were filled with the Holy Spirit. He remains with you and is in you!

Say: Prayer is a conversation with God! Spend time praying by thanking Jesus for giving you the Holy Spirit. Ask the Holy Spirit to move in you as He did through the disciples in Acts.

COMMUNITY

Read Acts 2:42-47.

Say: What is one thing that stands out to you in this Scripture and how can you apply it to your life?

CULTURE

Say: The Holy Spirit empowers you to follow Jesus, grow as a disciple, and make decisions that glorify God! The enemy wants culture and the world to empower us to make decisions that don't glorify God or reflect Jesus to the people around us. But the Holy Spirit empowers you to follow Jesus.

Say: Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal/impress/bring to mind one way you can obey a new truth you learned at camp this week.

(Suggested answer: stop cussing on my sports team, not gossiping at lunch, honoring my parent's curfew, etc.)

CREATED TO ... (I.E. WHO AM I NOW THAT I KNOW THIS?)

Say: Peter and the disciples had to be rooted in connection to the Holy Spirit as they sought to obey what God was asking them to do—be His witnesses to the whole world, even if it cost them everything. Ask the Holy Spirit to remind you of your identity in Christ and to remind you of who God says you are.

Say: Practice hearing from the Holy Spirit by writing down what you sense the Holy Spirit saying. Remember, God will never contradict Himself! If what you hear doesn't align with Scripture, it's not the Holy Spirit.

Say: Our live it out statement is because I am filled with the Holy Spirit, I get to be a part of spreading revival to my generation. We know that God's will is for the Gospel to spread to every tribe, tongue and nation.Tonight we get to take a step of obedience during the service.

Say: This year, the IMB will share about Ethiopia and its neighboring countries, nearly half still have no gospel witness among them. The IMB's hope is to empower and equip national believers to reach the unreached peoples of the Horn of Africa on their way to reaching the world. Say: An under-reached people group is a group of people that share unique language and culture and have very little access to the gospel

message. Like all people, they have been separated from God because of their sin. Without access to the story of Jesus, they have no hope for eternal life and no help for problems in this life.

Say: We get to give and pray towards this offering tonight. Even though we aren't going into these places we have the opportunity to impact the kingdom of God right here at camp!

Pray and dismiss.

Suggested Prayer

 Thank You, Jesus, for the gift of the Holy Spirit! We are so thankful that You ask us to be a part of Your revival plan for an entire generation! You are big enough to revive an entire generation, God! Come and revive our generation! We love that You are with us and in us, Holy Spirit. Help us to obey Jesus and grow in our love for Him. Amen.

LIFE GROUP: REFLECT & PREPARE

Each night you and your Life Group will reflect on the day, and pray for the night service to come. Use this page as a guide for your group.

REFLECT

Say: What was your favorite part of today?

Say: How can God use you to be a part of His revival plan for this generation?

Say: What is something you are hoping to learn from tonight's service?

Say: How can this group stay connected past camp?

PREPARE

Say: Thank you all for sharing today! I'm sad that this is our last night. Now we are going to spend some time in prayer. I hope tonight is comfortable for you since we've been praying together all week.

Prayer Prompts

- Read John 14: 15-21.
- Thank God for the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to lead people who don't know Him to repentance.
- Pray for the IMB to continue reaching people around the world with the good news of Jesus.
- Pray for the missionaries that we are giving to tonight.
- Pray for no distractions.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to use the pastor and worship leader.

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