

“FIRMLY PLANTED”

Youth Study #1 *“Blessed Walk”*

Opening Activity....

Note: All activities here can be used where you want, some may serve as openers, others as a way to close. Be with the youth, enjoy their presence and look to get them all involved by encouraging them. Also, never be afraid to use even the activities as teaching tools....

Giant sneeze

Divide the group into three. Assign each group one of these sounds: Hishee, Hashee, Hoeshee. Have each group say them separately, then have all the groups say them together. After that, assign each group one of the following sounds: Hish, Hash, and Shoo. Have each group say their word. Have them say them together and see how funny they sound. Then have Hish immediately followed by Hash and Hash immediately followed by Shoo.

Sounds dumb, but it actually can be quite funny :)

Actually this activity will lead into the worship time and then actually the Bible Study time.....Simply ask, “what does a person often say after someone has sneezed?”

“God Bless You” or “Bless You”

Drop the lid

Everyone is seated in a circle and one person stands in the middle holding a lid.

The person in the middle must walk around the circle and take the hand of someone of the opposite sex. That person then takes the hand of the opposite sex and so on. This continues until the first person drops the lid and everyone runs to a seat. The person left without a seat picks up the lid and the game begins again.

The STUDY of God’s Word—Psalm 1:1

Note: This study and the other three could be done before the FLY convention, or after, or both (2 before, 2 after; 1 before, 3 after). I would recommend that 3 and 4 for sure be done after. Another thought is do one or two of these on the trip to the FLY convention (great for bus trip, or when you make a stop).

*Go for a walk with your youth and stop at a tree (if possible, one by a water source of some kind).

*Stop, pull out your Bibles and read together Psalm 1. (Note to the students that you will be spending your time in verse 1 for this study.)

*Discuss the following: (The method of discussion is up to you—questions, breaking into groups, student led, leader led, acting out.....etc. But in some way bring everyone or keep everyone together and hit these key points.)

1. ***Blessed is the man...*** What does it mean to blessed? Who is doing the blessing here and why? Does man mean just guys?
2. **WALK**—Discuss that walk means—“living life.” (how you live, what you think and do, the decisions you make and the path you take)
3. ***...who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked....***—What is the way of the wicked? What makes a person wicked? (Remind them that we are born in sin and have a sinful nature, and that because of that sin we are separated from God.) Where do we receive counsel today on how to live? (People? Oprah? TV? School? Word of God?)
4. ***...or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers....***—Why is Christianity, true Christianity so offensive to the world? What are the worldviews that are present today? How can we walk in such a way as to not do these things? Does it mean we should totally separate ourselves from the world? (These questions will involve some good discussion, don't be afraid of discussing them, but come back somehow to the fact that we are to live in this world, but to not let it guide or permeate our lives.)
5. Read together Psalm 112:1 and Matthew 5:1-12.
6. PRAY together. (Various methods can be used, but make sure they know that you are praying to and with God. They've heard Him speak through His Word, now they have an opportunity to talk with Him.)

On the walk back talk about or ask them.....Where do you walk everyday? Whom do you meet? Whom do you rub shoulders with?.....Maybe even discuss the possibility of a prayer walk in your community or neighborhood sometime.

SNACK TIME

Note: Snacks are one of the ways to a youth's heart, well their stomach; and it is always a good time. Be sure to use something that may serve as a reminder of what you took a look at in the Bible. Obviously the things mentioned here will only be recommendations, but certainly be creative. Think of snack time as a way to reinforce Biblical concepts. (P.S. Always interested to hear about how you used this study, or the creative ways you brought forth the truth of God's Word.)

Possible snacks for this lesson—Water Bottles (Tree, Firmly Planted); Blessed treats (Simply remind them of the blessing that it is to have the treats, give them a name....).