

# **2024 CHURCH GROUP TIME GUIDE**

# **5-Day Version**





# CREDITS

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# INTRODUCTION

# **Church Group Time**

Immediately following Worship each night, your students and adults will gather as a group. The purpose of this material is to provide a guide for you to use, if you desire and need help structuring this time.

# Purposes for Church Group Time:

- 1. **Continue Worship.** If the Lord has stirred the hearts of your students during Worship, you may want to continue in this spirit. Some of your students may have made decisions that they need to make public to your group. Perhaps you will want to continue the discussion of the sermon.
- 2. Reflect on the daily theme and what the Lord has done. Time for reflection is critical at camp, especially since so much happens with a busy schedule throughout the day. One of the best ways to help students experience transformation is by creating space to process the day's events and acknowledge God's presence in their lives. Reflection allows time for everyone to slow down enough for their hearts to catch up with their minds or their thoughts.
- 3. **Pray together as a group**. One of the deepest connections we can make as human beings is through praying together. Praying with and for someone is one of the most meaningful ways to care for them.
- 4. **Share important information and announcements.** Some administrative items will need to be shared such as walking through the schedule, sharing details about Night Life, talking about the mission emphasis, and so forth. You may want to wait and share these at the end of this time so that you do not disrupt the spirit that was started during Worship.

You may lead each of these sessions yourself, involve the adult sponsors from your group, or ask students to help lead. You may choose to use this material, use your own plan, or allow this to be a reflection and share time. Whatever way you choose, we suggest you prepare this time before camp. **If you follow this plan, you will want to designate small family groups** (same or mixed gender, four to six people, including adult sponsors in these groups). Please dismiss your group in time for them to get to the next program element or to their rooms by curfew.

# **Church Group Host**

Your group will have a staff host during your time at camp. This host will escort you and your group from Worship to your Church Group Time location. Make sure your students get to know your host. Give time for your host to introduce himself/herself to your group on Opening Night. The staffer will check in with you daily and may sit in on one of your Church Group Times. Your host will eat meals and sit with your group during Worship periodically, as possible, throughout the camp session.

# **Church Group Time Meeting Space**

Our camp locations do not have enough indoor classrooms to accommodate all church groups. Please be patient with us if your group has been assigned a location that is outside, in a lobby, or in another place that is not a classroom. We will do our best to find spaces for all groups.

We hope this material will help you get the most out of your Church Group Time at the end of each day at camp.

# The FUGE Camps Team



# **Opening Night**

**Revival Generation** 

## **Supplies:**

None

# **Prepare:**

• Assign students and adults to family groups (same or mixed gender, four to six people, including adult sponsors in these groups).

# Welcome

Welcome your group to Church Group Time. Explain to your students that this time will be an opportunity for your group to share stories, pray together, and celebrate what God is doing during camp.

Allow time for your church host to share briefly and pray over your group.

## **Expectations**

Ask students to share from their experience so far—Opening Celebration, first time in Bible Study, Worship, and so forth.

Lead students and adults to join with their family group and be seated on the floor or in chairs, if available. Ask them to consider their expectations for the camp and to share those with their group. After a short time, ask them to share something they might be nervous about.

Call on a few students to share with the large group. Share that this is going to be an amazing week of camp and challenge students to let go of any distractions and to tune in to the Lord and all that He wants to show them this week.

# **Theme Interpretation**

Say: "As you have heard in Opening Celebration, in your Bible Study group, and in Worship tonight, the camp theme this summer is 'Revival Generation.' "

Instruct groups to stay in their family groups for this discussion time.

Lead groups to discuss: What is revival?

In their discussion as they define revival, ask them to share any connections they have had with the concept of revival (heard about the recent ones in the news, had revival services at their church, etc.)

Give groups the chance to share their definitions and thoughts on revival.

**Share:** Revival is more than an emotional high. Revival is the spiritual awakening of God's people to their true nature and purpose. It is getting serious about our faith.

Lead groups to discuss: What do you think is required for you to experience revival personally?



Call on a couple of groups to share from their discussion.

Say: "This week, we are going to study how revival requires us to turn to the Lord in prayer, confessing and repenting of our sins and obeying Him."

#### Call on a student to read aloud 2 Chronicles 7:14:

"And my people, who bear my name, humble themselves, pray and seek my face, and turn from their evil ways, then I will hear from heaven, forgive their sin, and heal their land."

Call on another student to read aloud Acts 3:19-20:

<sup>19</sup> Therefore repent and turn back, so that your sins may be wiped out, <sup>20</sup> that seasons of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send Jesus, who has been appointed for you as the Messiah.

Lead students to ponder this question: What will it take for you to experience revival personally this week at camp?

# Lead groups to discuss: What does your generation need to do to be known as the revival generation?

Allow groups to share briefly. Share how students have the opportunity to impact others—fellow classmates, youth group members, friends, other students involved in their extracurricular activities, family members, neighbors, and the list could go on. The question is: Will the impact be for Christ or some other temporary, worldly thing?

Invite a student to read aloud **Psalm 78:4:** We will not hide them from their children, but will tell a future generation the praiseworthy acts of the LORD, his might, and the wondrous works he has performed.

Ask another student to read **Psalm 145:4:** One generation will declare your works to the next and will proclaim your mighty acts.

Say: "If you guys get on fire for the Lord, imagine how that might impact our church and community."

Lead groups to discuss: How can our church experience revival when we get back home?

Ask groups to think about specific ways. Give time for groups to share. Make note of these so you can follow up when you return home.

Pray that the Lord will move in the hearts and minds of all at camp this week and lead everyone to turn to Him, confess and repent, and be renewed in their relationship and walk with the Lord.

# **Mission Focus**

Say: Over the next few days, we will see and hear about missions and the emphasis for this summer. We will also collect money for a mission offering that will be a part of Worship on the last night of camp. FUGE Camps is partnering with the International Mission Board to minister to and reach those in the N.A.M.E. affinity (North Africa Middle East), specifically those in Ethiopia with the gospel. They are also partnering with the North American Mission Board to assist



missionaries in Philadelphia in reaching that city for Christ. A portion of the offering will go back to local ministry sites that we use for MFuge.

Challenge students not to spend all of their money on snacks and other items but to save some to give to missions. Consider setting a church group goal. Pray for the mission emphasis and the offering and your group's part in it.

# Prayer

Lead family groups to spend a few minutes praying over the week and individual requests.

# Announcements

Walk through the daily schedule, make announcements, share rules, and cover any other administrative items as needed. Take questions as time permits.

Dismiss students to Free Time and remind them that they must be in their rooms at 11:00 p.m. If they have not connected with their parents since arriving at camp, encourage them to reach out.



# **Night of First Full Day**

# Revival Generation — Where Does It Begin? Pray and Turn to the Lord

# **Supplies:**

· Notecard and pen for each person

# **Prepare:**

• Prepare a worship song to play from your phone.

# Welcome

Welcome everyone to Church Group Time.

## Share Time

Invite students and adults to gather in their family groups to share highlights of the day—new experiences, things that stood out or made an impact, how God has spoken to them, and so forth. After five to eight minutes, lead groups to pray together, thanking God for a great day.

## **Prayer Time**

Since today's emphasis is on prayer, the remainder of your time together tonight will be spent in prayer using the following prayer experience.

Say: "You learned about the ACTS acrostic representing elements of prayer today in Bible Study." Ask a volunteer(s) to share these four elements. Say: "Since today's focus is on prayer, the starting point for revival, we are going to practice these four elements of prayer."

### ADORATION

Invite your group to stand in a circle, facing into the center. If your group is large, you may want to do this in family groups.

Say: "To adore someone means to show a deep love and respect for that person. We are going to spend time focusing on and adoring God now." Lead students and adults to close their eyes and reflect on who God is to them.

### Read aloud 1 Chronicles 29:11-12:

<sup>11</sup> "Yours, LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the splendor and the majesty, for everything in the heavens and on earth belongs to you. Yours, LORD, is the kingdom, and you are exalted as head over all. <sup>12</sup> Riches and honor come from you, and you are the ruler of everything. Power and might are in your hand, and it is in your hand to make great and to give strength to all."

Invite students and adults to call out the names or characteristics of God that make Him praiseworthy.

Instruct them to spend some time praying silently, acknowledging and praising God for who He is. Play a worship song and give students and adults freedom to move to other spaces or prayer positions.



Pray aloud: "Heavenly Father, we give You all the glory because You are the King of kings and the Lord of lords. You are worthy of all praise and worship, and we are filled with awe when we think about who You are and the great things You have done! Amen."

#### CONFESSION

Say: "Now, we are going to move into a time of confession. The Bible says in Romans 3:23: 'all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.' In other words, we all mess up. Think through the last week and find the moment where you messed up the worst. Think through your conversations, the things you've done with friends, the things you've done while alone, your thoughts, and your behavior at school. When you've found the moment you're most ashamed of, kneel and spend forty-five seconds confessing to God."

After a couple of minutes, say: **"Many years ago, Monks would chant very simple prayers to God.** They would repeat a short phrase over and over until it had sunk into both their heads and their hearts. Bow your head, close your eyes, and repeat this simple prayer ten times silently to yourself. Pray slowly and allow yourself to focus on each of the words of this prayer: 'God, have mercy on me.' "

After a few more minutes, say: **"The Bible also says in 1 John 1:9: 'If we confess our sins, he is** faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.' We know from Psalm 103:12 that God throws our sin 'as far as the east is from the west.' Now that you've confessed, stand with your arms stretched in front of you and your palms up. Picture yourself letting go of a heavy load and thank God for forgiving you."

Pray aloud: "God, we acknowledge that we are sinners in need of a Savior. Thanks for sending Jesus to be that for us! Amen."

#### THANKSGIVING

Say: "You can sit on the floor for this time. We are going to focus on having a thankful heart. Gratitude is being thankful for and showing appreciation for what we have."

Give each student and adult an index card and pen. Lead them to list things for which they are thankful. After a few minutes, collect the cards.

#### Read aloud Psalm 100:4-5:

<sup>4</sup> Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him and bless his name. <sup>5</sup> For the LORD is good, and his faithful love endures forever; his faithfulness, through all generations.

Say as a prayer: "God, we are thankful for . . ." as you read aloud some for the items listed on the cards you collected.

#### SUPPLICATION

Say: "Now, we will spend the rest of our time praying for others and ourselves." Instruct students and adults to move back into their family groups and sit in a circle.

Say: "In the Bible, Galatians 6:2 says, 'Carry one another's burdens; in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.' " Allow time for students and adults to share prayer concerns within their groups.



Say: "Spend twenty seconds praying for the person on your right. Now, spend twenty seconds praying for the person on your left. Say aloud the first name of someone you know who needs God. They may need him for healing, for comfort, or for salvation. Spend a few seconds praying for this person."

Ask an adult in each group to pray to end this time.

## Announcements

Share any announcements and dismiss for Night Life—Silent Disco. Remind students to be in their rooms by 11:00 p.m.



# Night of Second Full Day of Camp

Revival Generation — What Does It Take? Confess and Repent of Your Sins

# **Supplies:**

None

## **Prepare:**

• Choose a worship song to play.

• Ask an adult sponsor to share about the role of accountability and even an accountability partner in your life.

## Welcome

Welcome everyone to Church Group Time.

# Share Time

Invite students and adults to gather in their family groups (or small groups) and to share highlights of the day—new experiences, things that stood out or made an impact, how God has spoken to them, and so forth. After ten to twelve minutes, lead groups to pray together, thanking God for a great day.

# **Confess and Repent Time**

Remind students of the prayer time last night where they spent time confessing sin and how they also reflected on confession and repentance in Bible Study today.

Ask a student to share the difference in confession and repentance. Say: **"Confession is admitting and acknowledging our wrong doing, while repenting is turning away from it and not doing it again."** Share that confession and repentance are an ongoing process; we are in continual need of this step in our lives because we continually mess up and do wrong.

Say: "I want to give you one more chance to spend some time in confession and repentance. Take the next five minutes to examine yourself, your heart and mind, and then go before the Lord in prayer." Play a worship song on your phone during this time.

#### After time passes, read aloud Psalm 51:1-17:

<sup>1</sup> Be gracious to me, God, according to your faithful love; according to your abundant compassion, blot out my rebellion. <sup>2</sup> Completely wash away my guilt and cleanse me from my sin. <sup>3</sup> For I am conscious of my rebellion, and my sin is always before me. <sup>4</sup> Against you—you alone—I have sinned and done this evil in your sight. So you are right when you pass sentence; you are blameless when you judge. <sup>5</sup> Indeed, I was guilty when I was born; I was sinful when my mother conceived me. <sup>6</sup> Surely you desire integrity in the inner self, and you teach me wisdom deep within. <sup>7</sup> Purify me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. <sup>8</sup> Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice. <sup>9</sup> Turn your face away from my sins and blot out all my guilt. <sup>10</sup> God, create a clean heart for me and renew a steadfast spirit within me. <sup>11</sup> Do not banish me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. <sup>12</sup> Restore the joy of your salvation to me, and sustain me by giving me a willing spirit. <sup>13</sup> Then I will teach the rebellious your ways, and sinners will return to you. <sup>14</sup> Save me from the guilt of bloodshed, God—



God of my salvation—and my tongue will sing of your righteousness. <sup>15</sup> Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. <sup>16</sup> You do not want a sacrifice, or I would give it; you are not pleased with a burnt offering. <sup>17</sup> The sacrifice pleasing to God is a broken spirit. You will not despise a broken and humbled heart, God.

Say: "When we confess and repent, and we have Jesus in our lives, we are forgiven. Without Jesus, there would be no forgiveness. Without forgiveness, we would have no relationship with the Father and would not be able to spend eternity with Him. Take a moment to let all of that sink in."

Say: "If you have not made the decision to surrender your life to Jesus and accept Him as your Lord and Savior, please see me before you go to bed tonight. This is the most important decision of your life."

Ask: "What does accountability mean?" (To account for one's actions; to take responsibility) "Why is it important in our faith walk?"

Say: "Having someone in your life who can help you stay accountable to not turn back to past sins and ways of life is very important."

Share a personal story or ask an adult from your group to share about the role of accountability and even an accountability partner in your life. Challenge students to find such a person that they can turn to and seek out when temptations come.

Say: "Oftentimes, our sin does not just impact us personally. It hurts others, too." Ask: "Has sin in your life hurt someone else? If so, I challenge you to go to that person. Maybe it is someone in this room tonight. If so, I am going to give some time for this to take place right here and now." After a few minutes and gauging the atmosphere of the room, say: "If this person is not in this room or you are not ready to do this on the spot, be sure to take care of this as soon as you can."

Say: "With your confession and repentance, you are forgiven. Christ has wiped away your sins as far as the east is from the west. The question remains: Whom do you need to forgive? Again, if the person is in the room and you are ready to make the move, I will give a few minutes for you to do this now."

After a short time, say: "If you are still holding on to this unforgiveness, I challenge you to let go of it, forgive the person, and then let them know."

Pray to end, thanking God for Jesus who made a way to the Father through forgiveness of sin.

### **Mission Offering**

Say: "This week, we are seeing and hearing about mission opportunities."

Ask students to share the mission emphasis for IMB (North Africa Middle East and the people of Ethiopia) and NAMB (Philadelphia).

Say: "We will now have an opportunity to give money to help support these causes."



Collect mission offering monies from the group. Tell students and adults that this will be given during Worship the next night so there is time to give later, if they do not have their money with them. Remind students of the goal your group set on Opening Night (if you set one).

### **Prayer - Missions**

Spend time praying for missions, specifically for IMB missionaries in Ethiopia and NAMB missionaries to Philadelphia. Also pray for the mission offering.

## Announcements

Share any announcements. Remind students to be in their rooms by 11:00 p.m. Dismiss to Hang Time.



# Night of Third Full Day of Camp

Revival Generation — What Does It Lead To? Obedience and Worship

## **Supplies:**

None

# **Prepare:**

· Plan a worship service or ask students to do it.

# Welcome

Welcome everyone to Church Group Time.

# **Worship Time**

The purpose of this time on this night will be to continue to worship since worship is the daily theme. You can plan this worship time yourself or pull students in to plan this time. Ask a student(s) to bring a guitar and lead in a time of songs. Play worship music and sing along. Read Scripture together. Pray together. Ask a student to share their testimony. Open the floor for students to share a decision they made at camp this week. You get the idea.

# Say: "Today, you studied about obedience and worship in Bible Study. We are going to continue our worship time from earlier."

Insert your plan here.

At the conclusion of this time, be sure to help students understand that worship is more than a corporate activity that we do at church. Share that we are called to participate in personal worship and to live a lifestyle of worship, and that worship is reflected in everything we do.

### Share Time

Invite students and adults to gather in their family groups to share highlights of the day—new experiences, things that stood out or made an impact, how God has spoken to them, and so forth. After ten to twelve minutes, lead groups to pray together, thanking God for a great day.

# Seniors Prayer Time, Shout-Out and Send-Off

Recognize seniors, those who just graduated high school. Point out that this is their last time at camp, at least as a student. Invite seniors to give a shout-out and a challenge to underclassmen. This should be a time for seniors to encourage the rest of the group.

Then, lead seniors to gather in a circle in the center of the room. Have the rest of your group gather around them, laying hands on them. Pray specifically for the seniors by name. Pray for this next season of life—to find biblical community, mentors, and strong Christian friends. Pray that they wouldn't waver from their faith, but that they would grow deeper in their knowledge of truth and grace.



## Announcements

Share any announcements about loading up and leaving in the morning. Challenge students to be ready to share with people back home, especially their parents, about their camp experience and to make it more than "it was fun" or "Mega Relay was the coolest."

Dismiss to either Mega Relay (if your location holds a nighttime Mega Relay) or Hang Time.