

CHURCH GROUP GATHERING GUIDE

WHAT IS CHURCH GROUP GATHERING?

Church Group Gathering is what we end our night with. It is yours to lead and develop. We believe this time as one large group is vital to connect and debrief with your students. They can digest and process what the Lord is teaching them and share about their experiences with other students and leaders who will continue speaking into their lives and then have a time of prayer.

We want to serve you in any way we can. If you need anything to make your Church Group Gathering time happen, please do not hesitate to ask!

Our prayer is that your Church Group Gathering each night fosters deep community, healthy accountability, and a clearer view of Jesus for your students.

CHURCH GROUP GATHERING IDEAS

We believe Church Group Gathering is most effective when you are able to tailor it specifically for your group. Because of that, we do not provide any formal curriculum. We won't leave you hanging though! Here are some ideas.

TIME OF SHARING

Let students talk about their camp or life experience. Ask them what they are learning from Bible study, quiet time, the camp pastor or band, etc.

CHALLENGE FROM STUDENT PASTOR

Use this distraction-free opportunity to personally challenge or encourage your students.

LATE NIGHT SNACKS

There's something special about breaking bread together... even if it's cookies. (Please keep your meeting space clean!)

PRAYER OR ACCOUNTABILITY PARTNERS

Intentionally connect students so they can pray together and for one another.

Pro Tip // Whether you use some of these ideas or do your own thing, come in to Church Group Gathering with a plan!



EXTENDED WORSHIP

Let your students or adults bring their instruments and lead this time.

AFFIRMATION TIME

Allowing students, adults, or even just you to speak affirmation can deliver a tremendous life impact. There are a variety of ways you can do this. One way is to write each student's name on a piece of paper and have everyone rotate throughout the room writing encouraging words for the person whose name is on the paper.

GIRLS' AND GUYS' NIGHT

Host a gender specific time of sharing and prayer. Plan fun activities that you know your guys and girls will like!

Pro Tip // *Save announcements for the end of your Church Group Gathering.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Group Gathering is a time for you and your students to be in the same place with minimal distractions. It's the perfect time to share specific announcements for your group, go over the schedule, or remind students of travel logistics on the last night of camp.

CONNECT WITH STUDENT LIFE STAFF

Ask one or more of our staff to share their heart and stories with your group.

SENIOR NIGHT

Your senior's last time attending camp is a special time. This can be a cool time to honor them and have them speak to the group. Towards the end, have them commission the juniors to be leaders in the coming year.

PRAYER PROMPTS

Looking for some ways to help guide your student into prayer? Here are some prayer prompts we have crafted that complement the main points from each day. Use these in conjunction with some of the ideas above to help get the most out of your Church Group Gathering.

Again, these are just tools to equip you, if needed. Feel free to use this time however you feel will best fit your group!



NIGHT 1 — AN UNLIKELY CHOICE

MAIN POINT // God has a habit of choosing unlikely people for His purposes- even people like us.

FOCUS VERSE — 1 Samuel 16:7-8 // *“But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look at his appearance or his stature because I have rejected him. Humans do not see what the Lord sees, for humans see what is visible, but the Lord sees the heart.”*

PRAYER PROMPT// As your wrap up your first night of camp, use this prompt to open your time of prayer.

“Father, thank you for choosing to use unlikely people like David and like myself to accomplish your plans. When I start to question if I am able to be used, would You remind me that all You desire is a heart for You, O God.”

NIGHT 2 — AN UNLIKELY HOPE

MAIN POINT // David was an unlikely warrior equipped with an unlikely hope. As we fight our own battles, we often feel unequipped, unprepared, and unworthy, but trusting in God leads us to walk in confidence. God is faithful and worthy of our hope.

FOCUS VERSE — 1 Samuel 17:37 // *“Then David said, “The Lord who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistines.” Saul said to David, “Go, and may the Lord be with you.””*

PRAYER PROMPT// As you wrap up another night of camp, use this prompt to open your time of prayer.

“God you are faithful and worthy of our hope. Would you help me to remember that my Kingdom impact is not based off merit or talent but comes from a hope and confidence in You. When the hardships and unknowns of life leave me feeling helpless, would You help me remember that You are steady and sure.”

NIGHT 3 — AN UNLIKELY RESPONSE

MAIN POINT // When we repent, we choose the unlikely response to our sin, and we're met by the grace of Jesus, whose unlikely response forgives us and restores us.

FOCUS VERSE — 2 Samuel 12:13 // *"David responded to Nathan, "I have sinned against the Lord." Then Nathan replied to David, "And the Lord has taken away your sin; you will not die."*

PRAYER PROMPT// Tonight, use this prompt to open your time of prayer.

"Lord would you forgive me for all the ways I have sinned against you. Holy Spirit help me become aware of my sin while also reminding me of the extravagant grace that I have through Jesus and the forgiveness that follows."

IMB FOCUS // Tomorrow night there will be a time where you, your students, and your leaders will have the opportunity to give towards the IMB efforts in Santiago, Chile. This is your reminder to announce the IMB offering to your group, letting them know it will take place during tomorrow night's evening service. We've also included a prayer prompt below for your group to specifically pray over this opportunity to give.

"God, we thank you for all the ways you are moving around the world through people like the IMB missionaries. Lord, would you help us to be attentive to the ways in which you are calling us to give. Whether that be monetarily, through prayer, or even being called into the mission field. We praise you Lord, knowing that your Gospel is meant for every tribe, tongue, and nation. Prepare our hearts to respond, O God."

NIGHT 4 — AN UNLIKELY LOVE

MAIN POINT // When we understand the gravity of God's sacrificial love for us, we become open to loving others- friend or foe- in the same way.

FOCUS VERSE — 1 Samuel 18:34 // *"Jonathan made a covenant with David because he loved him as much as himself. Then Jonathan removed the robe he was wearing and gave it to David, along with his military tunic, his sword, his bow, and his belt."*

PRAYER PROMPT// On this final night of camp use this prompt to open your time of prayer.

"God, help me to have the eyes to see what You see and the heart to love as You love. Help me understand the weight of Your love and may that love restore me daily."

