

GROUP ICE BREAKER

Who was your childhood idol and why?

REVIEW LAST WEEK'S NEXT STEPS

What, if any, next step did you commit to last week, how did it go?

- I will not compare my gifts to others.
- I will ask God how he wants me to use my gifts to serve him.
- I will identify, develop, invest, and celebrate the gifts God has given to me.

MESSAGE SUMMARY

According to The Barna Group research, 94% of Christians accept Christ before they are 18. That means that only 6% of the church became a Christian after they left High School. The same study found that 63% of people polled accepted Christ between the ages of 4-14. That's why the Next Generation is a pillar of our community at Blue Oaks.

At Blue Oaks we hope that young people grow in their faith, return every Sunday, and are excited to invite their friends. By the time a student graduates High School, they are fully integrated into the life of Blue Oaks through serving, worshipping, and committed to their personal spiritual growth. Parents view Blue Oaks as a vital partner in the development of their kids.

We teach big ideas and characteristics about God to children, how God has worked and who God is to our Middle Schoolers, and then dive deep into the Bible with the High Schoolers so that these characteristics and stories become woven into the fabric of their identity.

Our hope is that Parents view Blue Oaks as a vital partner in the development of their kids. We all know that it takes a village to get your family across the line, which is why at Blue Oaks we hope to be a part of your village as parents walk with and teach their kids all about God.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. At what age did you begin a relationship with Jesus? Share your story with the group.
2. If you spent time in the church as a child or teenager, what was that experience like for you?
3. Have you had a spiritual role model in your life, either when you were young or later in life? If so, describe what that relationship has meant to you and done for your spiritual journey.
4. Read Proverbs 22:6. What do you think this verse means?
5. If you're a parent, what has been the greatest challenge in leading your children spiritually? Have you found ways to overcome those challenges?
6. What do you feel is the church's role or responsibility in the spiritual development of the next generation?

NEXT STEPS FOR THIS WEEK (COMMIT TO GROW)

Use these as a guide to take your next step and commit to what you learned this week:

- I will pray for the Family Ministries Team.
- I will explore if Family Ministries is where my spiritual gift is best used.
- I will live my life in a way that sets a Christ-centered example for students.
- I will approach God as a child and simply sit with Him.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Take time to share how you can be praying for each other over the next week:

-
-
-
-
-
-