

SERVES: CHURCH

TIME: ANYTIME

#### PRESENTING THE NEED TO MY TEAM

- Have you ever heard anyone criticize the Church?
- What are your feelings when you hear someone attack your Church?
- Are you afraid to stand up and defend the Church to the end?
- Do you know how to defend particular questions well?
- The Church was founded 2000 years ago by Christ Himself and she now
- stands as a beacon of hope amidst a stormy sea bombarded on every side by enemies of every type.
- What can we tell people about the Church?



- What can we do to share the truth about the Church with those that may be misinformed?
- · Jesus depends on you alone.
- Together as a team, lets help our families grow in our faith and become more excited about it.

## "THE CHURCH WAS FOUNDED 2000 YEARS AGO BY CHRIST HIMSELF."

## OUR CALL TO SERVE

Together as a team, we will conduct a faith survey in public places and find out how much the world needs Christ and his Church.

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

# PROJECT OVERVIEW

WEEK	STEPS	QUESTION OF THE WEEK
1	Plan: Together with the adult leaders, plan on the best public places to go to conduct the faith survey. Permission may be needed well in advance for places like public malls, etc. Ideally, week #4 would be the first survey in public, and week #8 would be a follow up visit to talk to people and hand out prepared information.	
2	Prepare Survey – first half: This week the boys should spend time preparing and choosing the questions that they are going to ask people on the faith survey. It is imperative that the adult leaders help train the boys with the answers to specific questions they may need to defend. Take time to prepare and lookup simple but concise answers to any questions that will be asked. You can use the SAMPLE QUESTIONAIRE on page 14 or a modified version. Try to prepare well at least ½ of the questions this week.	
3	Prepare Survey – second half: Finish preparing the second half of the survey questions and train the boys on simple but concise answers.	
4	<b>Print:</b> Put the survey into a computer template and print out at least 25 copies each for every group of boys (2 or 3 boys should be grouped together for asking people the survey next week)	
5	Go Out: This week should be the week to conduct the faith survey in a public place. Have the boys split into groups of 2 or 3, and keep them close within sight distance of the adult leaders at all times. Remind the boys to pray for them.	

DEFEND TO THE END!





# DEFEND TO THE END!

WEEK	STEPS	QUESTION OF THE WEEK
6	Analyze Data: Tally the results of each group of 2 or 3 boys to see which questions people needed most help on (work on percentages as the questions asked to non-Catholics will usually get a greater number of "no" responses). Whichever has the highest percentage of "no" responses should be the one you attack.  Choose One: Determine one question that people were generally confused about to address.  Discussion Points: Decide on several general points to address in a pamphlet you could give out.	
7	Create Pamphlet: Design the whole pamphlet. Some boys should search online, or in the Bible and the Catechism for the truth you want to express while others work on stories and graphic design. Print: Make sure to have someone finish up the final touches during the week and print off lots of copies.	
8	DEFEND TO THE END!: This week the boys go back to the public place and hand out the pamphlets and engage people in helping to explain the particular truth about the Church that they prepared. Make sure adult leaders are readily available in case anyone becomes argumentative. Have a predetermined hand signal or something to alert / call for an adults help in engaging the person in apologetics or thanking them for their time and moving on to the next person.	

# PROJECT OVERVIEW

## TACTICS BY AREAS

SERVES: CHURCH TIME: ANYTIME

#### LOCATION

- The public location should be somewhere where there will be a lot of people, some of whom will be willing to answer.
- The place also needs to facilitate adult supervision so the boys never leave the range of vision of the adults. Generally, a public park, a square, or a shopping center / plaza work best.
- Permission may be needed ahead of time, although getting kicked out by security can seem pretty cool to the boys. Make sure to plan ahead.

#### **PROVISIONS**

- Each group of 2 or 3 boys needs a questionnaire sheet and another sheet to record answers (one boy asks questions while another writes they can take turns).
- Clipboards or binders work well for the boys to write on. In the sample survey, all the questions are intended to be Yes/No questions which makes final tallying much easier and doesn't put the boys on the offensive to have to defend answers, although some will challenge them.
- Club shirts: when doing the survey or handing out pamphlets the boys should wear their Conquest club T-shirt.
- Computer and printer to produce and print pamphlets: you need to make them look professional. It would be great if 1 or 2 boys can bring a laptop computer to the club meeting (ask the dads). If you have the money, color printing looks more professional and you can ask for donations when distributing them.
- Preparation: Make sure all the boys know at least a basic answer for each
  question asked. The point is to help them to be able to DEFEND our
  Church and its truths. Getting them outside of their comfort zone (even
  the dads) is not easy, but the best training possible.

DEFEND TO THE END!



## TACTICS BY AREAS



#### RESPONSIBILITIES

- During the faith survey, each boy needs to have a responsibility at all
  times. The teams are generally divided into questioner, note taker, and
  one boy who prays for the person and comes in when the questioner needs
  help.
- Two or three researchers find all the pertinent information for the pamphlets and then to train the other team members. This could be homework – they can use the Bible, the Catechism, online (double-check any references found here), or other authentic Catholic resources.
- One graphic design guy makes the front of the flyer and makes one or two images for inside.
- One boy who is good with Publisher or Word can smooth out the writing and put everything together for final printing.
- An adult leader should handle logistics and arranges rides for weeks 4 and
   8.
- All the boys should have some input into creating the pamphlet.

#### CONTACTS

- People for Survey: the boys need to introduce themselves clearly and in a
  friendly manner. Allow them to elaborate on the questions a little so they
  don't think it is an interrogation but keep it from going on forever.
   Remain kind and courteous whatever their attitude is, you may rouse their
  conscience even if they don't show it.
- People receiving the pamphlets: the boys need to avoid sounding preachy. They already have the perfect excuse because they simply want to help the people that were already interviewed here. The secret is to serve rather than have a "holier than thou" attitude. Authenticity is a key item to teach the boys. Purity of intention is a must. Pray before this project!

PROJECT OVERVIEW

## DEBRIEFING

SERVES: CHURCH

TIME: ANYTIME

#### SPECIAL OPS

- The boys need to work in teams on the surveys. They need to see how each is important and take it very seriously.
- Speed is of the essence here. Even if the pamphlet is not perfect, the boys need to go and distribute it. Do not forget this is the essential part of the project so ensure it does not get skipped.
- The boys need to make the pamphlet clear and understandable. The KIS (Keep It Simple) principle applies here. High theological terms should be avoided if at all possible.
- You want the boys to get asked questions they don't know and be confronted by indifference or hostility towards religion so they are ready to confront it. This really gets them outside their comfort zone and teaches them a valuable lesson. Boys need to see how far the world has strayed from Christ to develop a desire to bring it back to Jesus.

#### **CONTINGENCY PLAN**



- Instead of making a pamphlet the boys could make a presentation on the
  point people were most confused about, and invite people to it. They could
  make posters with pie charts to describe the percentages of yes/no answers.
- If most of the team goes to one or two schools, they can also do the survey and handing out pamphlets over their lunch hour with kids at school. This would require permission of course from the principle and school staff.

DEFEND TO THE END!



## APPENDICES

#### SAMPLE QUESTIONNAIRE

"Hello, we are a Catholic youth group called Conquest and we were wondering if you have a minute to answer a few questions for a survey we are doing."

- 1. Do you believe in God? (if no, skip to question #13)
- 2. Are you a Christian? (if no, skip to question #13)
- 3. Are you Catholic? (if not Catholic, skip to question #8)
- 4. Do you know what the distinction between mortal and venial sin?
- 5. Have you been to confession since Christmas (i.e. a 4 or 5 month period)?
- 6. Are we as Catholics obliged to follow every dogma the Pope defines?
- 7. Is the Eucharist the same body and blood of Jesus that walked on this earth 2000 years ago?
- 8. Did Jesus really rise from the dead or is that just a story?
- 9. Have you attended religious services (Mass, if Catholic) in the past week?
- 10. Is there an afterlife with reward and punishment based on actions in this life?
- 11. Is abortion always morally wrong?
- 12. Have you ever tried to share your faith?
- 13. Who will win the NBA Championship / World Series / Stanley Cup/ Super Bowl (choose based on the city) this year?

Thank them for their time.

When you are handing out pamphlets you could say something like the following: "Hello, we are a Catholic youth group of boys who want to help you out. We came here 3 weeks ago and did a survey, and a lot of people had questions about abortion / the Eucharist / Heaven / etc. so we prepared this little pamphlet to explain it to everyone. (A small explanation of the point in question can follow.)

DEFEND TO THE END!

PROJECT NOTES:	

DEFEND TO THE END!

