

THIS BOOK BELONGS TO:

This book is meant to be a guide to help you lead your team's weekly meeting & activities. There is one service project and 8 weeks of activities per book. The final week is meant to be a hands on apostolic service project with your team. Use your team leader guidebook as a workbook where you write in it and plan and prepare your team activities. You will find other helpful things for the activities on your Team Leader USB drive and online resource center.

Each weekly meeting is an opportunity to help your team members discover something new about God, themselves and the world around them. We all have questions in our hearts and Conquest gives you a unique way to work together to discover the answers to those questions.

In Conquest, we have a special way to help young men discover the answers to their questions:

EXPERIENCE CONNECT DECIDE

You will need to access the following websites for resources for this team leader guidebook.

www.ConquestYouthMinistry.com

Click on "Resources" along the top menu, then click on the "Login" button under the Team Leader Resource Center & Training section. Make sure to obtain your password from your Conquest Adult Leader. Also, he should ask you to watch the Team Leader Online Training Modules, take the short quiz at the end, and print your certificate and provide it to him. You have been given an awesome responsibility to serve souls on your team, so you need to ensure that you are capable by taking the initiative to go through some training early in the year.

www.YouTube.com/ConquestClubs

Look for and use the High School Team Leader Playlist 2015-16

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HOW TO USE THIS GUIDEBOOK

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDEBOOK

This guidebook is intended for your personal use, the Conquest “teen” team leader, (ideally 2-3 years older than the boys you are leading). The team leader is the most important role in the group, and the success of the team is directly proportionate to your generosity in giving your time and talent for your team of boys entrusted to you. This cannot be taken lightly. This is your mission.

In order to help foster this dedication and leadership, the Conquest adult leader is present to actively encourage and motivate you. Ideally he will be reviewing your planning and preparation each week, offering his support, suggestions, and critique, all to form you into the true leader God calls you to be, with an apostolic heart on fire for Christ and His Church! Don’t forget to ask him for your password to the Team Leader online resource center at www.ConquestYouthMinistry.com

This guidebook is broken down into the following areas:

1. PROJECT OVERVIEW SECTION:

This is a complete overview of the entire proposed apostolic service project the team should complete in the weeks allocated. Of course you are free to choose any optional project from the online resources or even create your own!

INTRODUCTION PAGE

PROJECT NAME AND LOGO: This states the suggested name and logo for the apostolic project.

SERVES: This indicates who or what is aided. (Poor, Family, Church, Friends, Sick & Elderly, or Community)

TIMEFRAME: This indicates the time of year best to apply this apostolic project.

PRESENT THE NEED TO MY TEAM: This area contains some questions for you to pose to the team to incite discussions on the particular topic that will lead them to the apostolate. It also may contain some references that you can use (Catechism, YouCat, Gospel verses, stories, etc.) to help you motivate the team.

CALLED TO SERVE: This is a summary of the apostolic project, and what the team is called to do to directly address the need.

WEEKLY PLANNING

MASTER PLAN BY WEEKS: This section lists the activities and planning suggestions to be taken week by week along with the appropriate weekly theme that links to the apostolic service project.

TACTICS BY AREAS

LOCATION: The suggested place(s) where the project should be executed, along with some practical advice for the location planning.

PROVISIONS: A list of items and materials needed to carry out the project.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Since each boy needs a responsibility, this suggests some specific ones that will be needed for the project.

CONTACTS: We cannot complete our mission alone, so this provides a list of people with whom the message needs to be spread and how to do it.

DEBRIEFING

This area helps you to plan out the final details of the project including any last minute instructions for the team.

SPECIAL OPS: Provides key elements and best practices for the team's success.

CONTINGENCY PLANS: This provides variations of the project. Depending on circumstances, projects can be varied to meet needs of the team or local area.

ROLL CALL - ORGANIZING THE TEAM: This is where you can put the pertinent contact information for all those helping with this project including team members, adult volunteers and other contacts.

APPENDICES: Some projects may have an appendix which gives you an example or references that may be helpful for how certain aspects of the project can be done.

PROJECT NOTES: This area is left blank for you to write down any pertinent information for you to refer back to for this project.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDEBOOK

2. WEEKLY ACTIVITIES:

PLAN & PREP

Each week you should review the weekly activity plan with the adult club mentor who can share some tips to help you better prepare for that next weeks activities. Each weekly activity has a “Prep and Plan” section to help you understand the theme.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK: This is the actual theme to discuss and you need to gear all the activities to help answer this question.

NEED WE ARE RESPONDING TO: This presents the deeper need or reason why we ask this question.

CONVICTIONS & DECISIONS: These are ideas and decisions you are trying to help your team understand. Hopefully by the end of the meeting they are ready to live differently.

WHAT IS THE ANSWER TO THE QUESTION? Brief and summarized answer to present to the team.

MAIN IDEAS: Usually a few ideas that help answer the question. Ideally, it is best to use this as a personal resource only for you to gain an understanding and come up with ideas to transmit this theme to the team. It is not meant to be read word for word, but rather summarized in your own words and stories.

WHAT DOES THE CATECHISM SAY ABOUT THIS QUESTION? YouCat numbers are listed and quoted to help better answer the question of the week.

HOW WOULD YOU SUMMARIZE THE ANSWER AND MAIN IDEAS IN YOUR OWN WORDS? A place for you to take notes to present the question and answer points to your team.

THIS WEEKS MEETING AT A GLANCE: A breakdown of the 6 steps of the weekly meeting and approximate time per step.

MATERIAL YOU WILL NEED FOR THIS WEEK'S MEETING: A list of supplies and materials for you to plan ahead of time to bring. Adult leaders should help you obtain them.

WHAT IS ON THE TEAM LEADER USB DRIVE OR ONLINE FOR THIS WEEK?: A list of files, handouts and videos you will need for the activities.

EXECUTE: TEAM ACTIVITY TIMELINE

After you prepare, there are 6 steps to execute each week during your Conquest weekly activity.

STEP 1 - SPORTS & GAMES: Some suggestions are offered for an active activity that also ties in with the theme.

STEP 2 – GETTING STARTED: Always take attendance and choose someone to lead the opening prayer.

STEP 3 - EXPERIENCE: → DYNAMIC ACTIVITY: This is the formative activity that will help you answer the question and get across the key ideas of the weekly theme. You want the boys to have an experience that helps them to better understand the question and the answer. Usually a game and video(s) for discussion.

STEP 4- CONNECT

TO CHRIST → GOSPEL READING & REFLECTION: One member should be chosen to read the Gospel passage. At the end, instruct the members that there will be 1-2 minutes of silence. You then ask if anyone would like to share any lights or inspirations. Insights and questions are also provided to assist you in leading the boys.

TO OTHERS → SAINTS & INSPIRATIONAL STORIES: This is the time when you can tell them the story of a saint or modern day hero who also had this question of the week and found an answer.

STEP 5- DECIDE → TEAM COMMITMENTS: The final connection should be to the boys own lives and they should want to live differently and make a decision – individually and as a team to do something that week. Suggestions are offered here for a commitment that the team can do. Review last weeks commitments, and how many team members fulfilled it.

STEP 6 -PROJECT TIME & WRAP UP: Review the previous weeks planning, action items and record this weeks new actions to be completed. Wrap up and closing prayer.

3. CREATE YOUR OWN PROJECT

Perhaps the apostolic project provided is not right for your team. Do you have another one in mind? Use this blank template to create your own.

4. PROJECT EVALUATION

This area is great to evaluate how well the team did overall for this project. There are questions for you to answer and review with the Adult leader and your team. There is also a space titled the “Hall of Fame” to record the struggles, fun, and fruit achieved from this project.

SPECIAL SYMBOLS

**YOU WILL SEE THESE ICONS IN THE
GUIDEBOOK TO HELP YOU.**



Indicates a moment to ask the boys a question and get them talking



Indicates you will need a computer or tablet to watch a video clip online



Indicates a reference or quote from the YOUCAT Youth Catechism



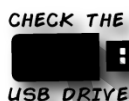
Indicates materials you will need for the activity



Indicates a team leader tip to help you lead the activity



Indicates a moment to tell an inspirational story or story of a saint



Indicates there are additional materials on the Team Leader USB drive & online resource center



Indicates the amount of approximate time needed for an activity (15 min's to 1 hour)



Indicates videos on the Conquest YouTube Channel Team Leader Playlist



Indicates indoor or outdoors activity

THE WEEKLY MEETING

6 PARTS OF THE CONQUEST WEEKLY ACTIVITY

1-SPORTS & GAMES

Have a fun physical activity each week. Make sure virtue is always the focus.

2-GETTING STARTED

Start off with a prayer and state the QUESTION of the WEEK.

3-EXPERIENCE-ACTIVITY

An activity that ANSWERS the question of the week through a game, video, or dynamic.

4-CONNECT TO CHRIST & THE SAINTS

A gospel reflection on how Christ answers the question of the week, plus lives of the saints and modern heroes.

5-DECIDE

Based on what they learned this week, they decide on an action or way to live their faith in the week ahead.

6-PROJECT TIME

Every week the team works on the service project for that book or one of the bonus projects.

FOLLOW THE TABS ON THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGES TO KNOW WHAT PART OF THE MEETING YOU ARE ON.

WEEKLY GUIDE SHEETS

WEEKLY GUIDE SHEET HANDOUTS

CONQUEST WEEKLY ACTIVITY GUIDE

AM I GOOD? WHY DID GOD MAKE ME THIS WAY?

YOU CAT #280 **WHAT REASONS DO CHRISTIANS GIVE FOR HUMAN DIGNITY?**
 Every person, from the first moment of his life in the womb, has an inviolable dignity, because from all eternity God willed, loved, created, and redeemed that person and destined him for eternal happiness. Christians believe that human dignity is, in the first place, the result of God's respect for us. He looks at every person and loves him as though he were the only creature in the world.

#291 **HOW CAN A PERSON TELL WHETHER HIS ACTION IS GOOD OR BAD?**
 A person is capable of distinguishing good actions from bad ones because he possesses reason and a conscience, which enable him to make clear judgments.

SAINTS & INSPIRATIONAL STORIES

ST ROSE OF LIMA
 St Rose of Lima was known for her external and internal beauty. Her good heart and kind nature was known by all. God made her the way she was so that she could lead people to him and share his love with her family and friends.

ST LOUIS, KING OF FRANCE
 St Louis was known to be a good and just king. God gave him talents and a strong character that would help him to lead his people with kindness. To be a better person, St Louis went to mass daily, would pray often and spent time with his people in order to understand them. It took constant effort to be a good person.

GOSPEL
 A MAN THERE NAMED ZACCHAEUS, WHO WAS A CITY TAX COLLECTOR AND ALSO A WEALTHY MAN, WAS SEEKING TO SEE WHO JESUS WAS; BUT HE COULD NOT SEE HIM BECAUSE OF THE CROWD, FOR HE WAS SHORT IN STATURE. SO HE RAN AHEAD AND CLIMBED A SYCAMORE TREE IN ORDER TO SEE JESUS. — LUKE 19: 1-10

ANSWERS

ANSWER IN YOUR OWN WORDS:

5TH & 6TH GRADE BOOK 1 WEEK 1

The Team Leader USB drive and online resource center have weekly meeting guide sheets that you can print out each week for your team.

You can either give the meeting guides out for the upcoming week so the team members can study ahead of time or you can print them for the week at hand.

Example of a weekly guide sheet

EACH MEETING GUIDE SHEET HAS:

- The question of the week
- A few YOU CAT numbers that help answer the question
- A passage from the Gospel that helps answer the question
- A recap or quote from the saint and stories of the week that help answer the question
- Some team discussion points to help to discover the answer to the question
- A place to jot down the answer of the week in your own words.

YOUCAT STUDY GUIDE

THIS YEAR'S HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM IS A BASIC STUDY OF THE



WHAT IS THE YOUCAT?

The YOUCAT (Youth Catechism of the Catholic Church) is the official Catholic catechism for young people. It takes all of the content of the Catechism and makes the teachings of the Church easily understood through a questions and answer format. If we want to be strong Christians, we need to know and love our faith.

3 INTRO VIDEOS

Can be found on the Conquest YouTube

Channel At www.YouTube.com/ConquestClubs

Look on the High School Team Leader Playlist 2015-16



YOUCAT Intro

Video name: HS-YOUCAT INTRO

The YOUCAT

Video name: HS-THE YOUCAT

YOUCAT - Book Trailer

Video name: HS-YOUCAT BOOK TRAILER



WHAT DOES YOUCAT STAND FOR?

Youth Catechism. As the video explains it is about YOU discovering the answers to your questions, doubts, about your faith.

HOW WILL WE USE IT IN THE WEEKLY MEETING FORMAT?

Every week in Conquest we set out to answer a question that we have deep down in our hearts. This year, each week we will cover a question that corresponds to a few numbers from the YOUCAT. By the end of the year we will have studied 99% of the YOUCAT and learn the basic principles and aspects of our Catholic faith.



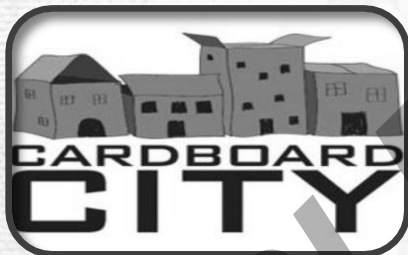
CARDBOARD CITY

SERVES:
PARISH / POOR

TIME:
SEP / OCT

PRESENTING THE NEED TO MY TEAM

- Have you ever slept outside overnight? Maybe you did in a nice tent while going camping?
- What if you didn't have a home? Where would you sleep at night?
- What would you do when it got really cold out?
- There are thousands of homeless people all over our country who do not have homes. Many sleep on the streets, in alleys and some in cardboard boxes, to attempt to protect them from the extreme elements of weather.



- How do the homeless get money for food? Sometimes in big cities, they work at street intersections and wash your windows of your car for a donation.

What can you do to help these people? How can you raise awareness of this sad problem? Are you willing to sleep in a box and wash windows yourself to help them?

THOUSANDS OF HOMELESS PEOPLE SLEEP OUTSIDE EACH NIGHT!

OUR CALL TO SERVE

Let's organize a Cardboard City, where we will setup our own cardboard box city to sleep in overnight to experience what it is like to be homeless. We can also raise funds and awareness for this problem at the same time, by washing peoples car windows while they are at Mass for donations.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

PROJECT OVERVIEW

WEEK	STEPS	WEEKLY THEME
1	<p>Permissions: First seek the permission of the pastor to organize, promote and host a cardboard city at your parish.</p> <p>Plan: This project should be planned, organized and executed well to be a success. First choose the location, date and time. Ideally it should be done on parish property seen by all on a Saturday night (best for raising awareness and collecting donations after weekend Masses). Window cleaning on parishioners cars in the parking lot while they are attending Mass will help move people to give a donation after Mass.</p>	Why do we believe and seek God?
2	<p>Decide: What homeless charity organization this project will benefit.</p> <p>Flyer: Make a flyer for promotion, stating what you will be doing, and that you will be collecting donations after the Saturday and Sunday Masses (dates).</p>	How is God a part of our lives?
3	<p>Cardboard: Each member should begin planning to collect cardboard boxes to bring the next week to make the box city.</p>	How do we know what to believe?
4	<p>Window Washing: You will need to obtain supplies, such as lots of little buckets, window cleaner, squeegee window tools, clean cloths, hose, etc. (See the WINDOW CLEANING picture on the Team Leader Resource Center USB drive or online for ideas)</p>	Is the Bible true?

CARDBOARD CITY





CARDBOARD CITY

WEEK	STEPS	WEEKLY THEME
5	<p>Advertise: Hang your flyers in places in the parish to begin promoting a few weeks prior to the event.</p> <p>Cardboard: Give the team one last week to collect cardboard boxes for the city.</p>	What does it mean to have faith in God?
6	<p>Pledges: The team could take pledges / donations ahead of time from family and friends (especially if they do not attend your parish) to survive sleeping overnight in a cardboard box.</p>	What should I know about prayer?
7	<p>Build: Build the cardboard city. Each team member should have their own box home. You can tape/staple boxes together, cut out doors and windows, paint or use markers to decorate. Once complete, a map should be made for where the city will be built with a basic layout.</p>	Why did God make us the way we are?
8	<p>CARDBOARD CITY: The box city should be setup at least 1 hour in advance of the Saturday evening Mass. The team should wash vehicle windows while the Mass is going on. An announcement should be made after each Mass that the Conquest group is sacrificing by living like the homeless for one night, by washing everyone's vehicle windows for a donation and sleeping in cardboard boxes to raise awareness for the homeless. Also see ACTIVITY FOR EVENING in the appendices.</p>	Service Project: There is a short Gospel Reflection to help motivate the boys for this apostolic project.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

TACTICS BY AREAS

SERVES:
POOR / PARISH

TIME:
SEP / OCT

LOCATION

- **Parish:** The ideal place to do this apostolic project is on parish grounds, on grass or even in the parking lot. The cardboard city should be setup in plain view of where people will be going into the church and exiting.
- **Home:** This can also be done at one of the members houses, but it will obviously be less effective and not bring about the awareness many people. It also reduces the ability to fundraise for the homeless, the team members will only be able to take pledges in advance.

PROVISIONS

- **Cardboard Boxes:** You will need lots of boxes to tape together to make a small city. Each boy should have his own cardboard home to sleep in.
- **Tape, box-cutters, paint, markers, etc.**
- **Window washing supplies:** small buckets, window squeegees, window cleaner spray, clean rags/cloths, etc.
- **Baskets for taking donations after Masses**
- **Poster board and markers:** for the evening activity
- **Computers:** for the evening activity
- **Printer:** for printing pictures for the evening activity
- **Coats / blankets:** Each member should bring a coat/blanket to keep them warm overnight, but discourage the use of sleeping bags/pillows to help them better experience how the homeless really live.



TACTICS BY AREAS

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Cardboard: Each team member needs to collect several cardboard boxes.
- Window washing: A team member (or two) should be in charge of collecting the window washing supplies and executing the washing.
- Flyer: One or two members should develop and print the flyers.
- Pledge cards: A member should be responsible for making and printing pledge cards.
- Speaker: A member needs to receive permission to make announcements after each Mass the weekend of the project. (or ask the priest to make the announcement).
- Evening Activity: A member or two should be in charge of organizing the evening activity, as well as making sure they have the needed supplies.

CONTACTS

- Pastor: You will need his permission for the event . He needs to see how this can really help to raise awareness for the homeless and help raise funds.
- Parents: Dads can help with this project,. Two adult chaperones will be needed for the overnight activity.
- Parishioners: The goal is to help them be more aware of the homeless and their needs, and how they can help.
- Homeless Charitable Organization: Choose an organization that ideally is Catholic if possible. Ensure they are a non-profit, and that the funds you raise will go to directly help the homeless in need.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

DEBRIEFING

SERVES:
POOR / PARISH

TIME:
SEP / OCT

SPECIAL OPS

- Make sure the team is careful while washing windows. Dirty water running down the paint of vehicles could upset people rather than making them feel thankful. Professionalism is key.
- The team ideally should sacrifice, and not have snacks – possibly even skipping dinner and offer up their hunger for the homeless. This will give them a much deeper experience. If you choose to do this, ensure a good breakfast is provided.
- A few team members at a time could go to each Mass, so that everyone on the team is able to attend and fulfill their Sunday Mass. Make a schedule ahead of time.
- Work with the parish for the donations. Ideally all donations (checks and cash) should be given to the parish, who in turn can provide a check to the charitable organization that you chose.
- If the organization you chose an organization that serves the homeless, see if they need help. Schedule the team to visit the organization to present the check and to help serve. This could be an ongoing project in helping them serve on a monthly basis.

CONTINGENCY PLAN



- If it rains, the cardboard city could be moved indoors. Unless the team is willing to really sacrifice, and be miserable. Just be careful that it is not too cold.
- Simply washing vehicle windows during weekend Masses to raise awareness and funds can be done without actually spending the night outdoors in boxes.

CARDBOARD CITY



DEBRIEFING

APPENDICES:

Evening Activity Ideas:

- Prepare a talk on the suffering of the homeless. Look up stats and reasons why there are so many homeless.
- Invite the organization you will support to come and speak Saturday evening.
- Invite someone who has been on a mission trip that has experienced first hand the poor, suffering and dying to give a talk on their experience.
- Break the group into a few small teams. Give them time to look up issues such as social justice, advocacy, world hunger, homelessness, various charitable organizations, etc. You can assign each small team one of these topics, and ask them to prepare a poster from their research. The poster could include stats, pictures, but most importantly answer the question “what can you do?” The posters can be displayed after the Sunday Masses on easels or by having the members hold them while asking for donations. Some real example posters are available as pictures on the Team Leader Resource USB drive or online for this project.
- Team members can make cards for the homeless. Writing them a note stating that they are praying for them, and that they care about them. Saint cards or other small religious things could be included.

**SERVES:
POOR / PARISH**

TIME:
SEP / OCT

PROJECT NOTES:

AMPLE ONLY



WHY DO WE BELIEVE AND SEEK GOD?

PREP & PLAN THE ACTIVITY

This section is meant to be a guide to help you prepare the activity for your team

QUESTION :

WHY DO WE BELIEVE AND SEEK GOD?

NEED WE ARE RESPONDING TO:

I need to have a new relationship with God.

CONVICTIONS & DECISIONS TO REACH IN THE ACTIVITY:

God loves me and I can get to know him. I want to respond to God by loving him.

WHAT IS THE ANSWER TO THE QUESTION?

We believe and seek God because he made us and we naturally want to respond to God by loving him.



TIP:

These ideas will help you answer this week's question. Highlight the main ideas that jump out at you so that you can have them clear in your mind.

MAIN IDEAS FROM THE YOUCAT:

THE ANSWER TO THIS WEEK'S QUESTION CAN BE FOUND IN THE YOUCAT: #1-6, #342 AND #352-355 WHICH ARE FOUND ON THE MEETING GUIDE SHEET AND ARE SUMMARIZED BELOW.



#1: For what purpose are we here on earth? We are here on earth in order to know and to love God, to do good according to his will, and to go someday to heaven. To be a human being means to come from God and to go to God....So that we might find the way home, God sent us his Son, who freed us from sin, delivers us from all evil, and leads us unerringly into true life.

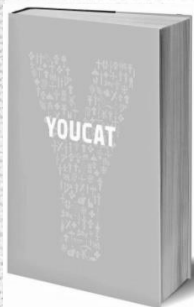
#2: Why did God create us? God created us out of free and unselfish love....Out of the "surplus" of his love he created us. He wanted to share his endless joy with us, who are creatures of his love.

#3: Why do we seek God? God has placed in our hearts a longing to seek and find him. It is natural for man to seek God.

#4: Can we know the existence of God by our reason? Yes. Human reason can know God with certainty. The order, the beauty, and the development of the world point beyond themselves toward God. Every man is receptive to what is true, good, and beautiful.

PREP & PLAN THE ACTIVITY

This section is meant to be a guide to help you prepare the activity for your team



If you have a YOUCAT make sure you use it.

These numbers in this book are shortened to highlight the main ideas.

The Meeting Guide Sheet for the team members have the entire number of the YOUCAT as well.

#5 Why do people deny that God exists, if they can know him by reason? To know the invisible God is a great challenge for the human mind. Many are scared off by it. Another reason why some do not want to know God is because they would then have to change their life.

#6: Can we grasp God at all in concepts? Is it possible to speak about him meaningfully? In order to express something about God, we use imperfect images and limited notions.

#342: Are we all supposed to become “saints”? Yes. The purpose of our life is to be united with God in love and to correspond entirely to God’s wishes. We should allow God “to live his life in us” (Mother Teresa). That is what it means to be holy: a “saint”... Holiness, however, is not some sort of self-made perfection; rather, it is union with the incarnate love that is Christ.

#352: What is the meaning of the commandment, “I am the Lord, your God” (Ex 20:2)? Because the Almighty has revealed himself to us as our God and Lord, we must not place anything above him or consider anything more important or give any other thing or person priority over him. To know God and to serve and worship him has absolute priority in our life. God expects us to give him our full faith; we should place all our hope in him and direct all the strength of our love toward him. The commandment to love God is the most important of all commandments and the key to all the others.

#353: Why do we worship God? We worship God because he exists and because reverence and worship are the appropriate response to his revelation and his presence. Worshipping God, however, is also beneficial to men, for it frees them from servitude to the powers of this world. When God is no longer worshipped and when he is no longer thought to be Lord over life and death, others assume that position and put human dignity at risk.

#354: Can people be forced to believe in God? No. No one may force others to believe. A person can make the decision to believe only in complete freedom. Christians, however, are called to help other people, by word and example, to find the way to faith.

WHY DO WE BELIEVE AND SEEK GOD?

PREP & PLAN THE ACTIVITY

This section is meant to be a guide to help you prepare the activity for your team

#355: "You shall not have strange Gods before me." What does that mean?



This commandment forbids us: to adore other gods and pagan deities or to worship an earthly idol or to devote oneself entirely to some earthly good (money, influence, success, beauty, youth, and so on) to be superstitious, which means to adhere to esoteric, magic, or occult or New Age practices or to get involved with fortune telling or spiritualism, instead of believing in God's power, providence, and blessings, to provoke God by word or deed.

HOW WOULD YOU SUMMARIZE THE ANSWER AND MAIN IDEAS IN YOUR OWN WORDS?



DON'T FORGET

Print out the Meeting Guide from the Team Leader USB drive or online resource center for this week. The Meeting Guide Sheet for the team members has the numbers from the YOUCAT, gospel quote, saint stories and team discussion questions to help answer the question of the week.

WEEK # 1

22

PREP & PLAN

WEEKLY ACTIVITY

PREP & PLAN THE ACTIVITY

THIS WEEKS MEETING AT A GLANCE

1	SPORTS & GAMES: SHAKER MAKER GAME	30 MIN
2	GETTING STARTED	5 MIN
3	EXPERIENCE ACTIVITY: VIDEO ANSWERS: YOUCAT 1-6	15-20 MIN
4	CONNECT: TO CHRIST- GOSPEL REFLECTION: JOHN 1: 35-43 TO THE SAINTS- ST JOHN EUDES / FRANK PARATER	15-20 MIN
5	DECIDE: COMMITMENTS	5 MIN
6	PROJECT TIME & WRAP UP	20 MIN

MATERIALS YOU WILL NEED FOR THIS WEEK:

- A computer or tablet to show videos
- Shaker Maker
 - Shaker Maker Sheets and Moves printed out.
 - Shoeboxes and shoelaces (or duct tape) for each guy.



WHAT IS ON THE TEAM LEADER USB DRIVE OR ONLINE RESOURCES FOR THIS WEEK?

- FILE: HS-Book1_Week1_Meeting_Guide.pdf
- FILE: HS-Book1_Week1_Shaker_Maker.pdf
- VIDEO: HS-BK1-WK1-Created To Be Happy (YOUCAT 1-3)
- VIDEO: HS-BK1-WK1-Weekly YOUCAT 2
- VIDEO: HS-BK1-WK1-Weekly YOUCAT 3
- VIDEO: HS-BK1-WK1-Weekly YOUCAT 5
- VIDEO: HS-BK1-WK1-Weekly YOUCAT 6

CHECK THE



USB DRIVE



WHY DO WE BELIEVE AND SEEK GOD?

SPORTS AND GAMES

You can choose to play any traditional sport or game, or try the suggested activity this week.

SHAKER MAKER

CHECK IT OUT:

Let's shake things up!

MAKE IT HAPPEN:

1. Print off the Shaker Maker Sheets from the online Team Leader Resource Center and tape one to the bottom of each shoebox.
2. Give each guy on the team a shoelace or some duct tape and a shoebox – but DO NOT LET THEM LOOK at the paper yet, simply ask them to tape the shoebox to one of their shoes with some duct tape or a shoelace.
3. Print out the Shaker Maker Moves sheets and have the guys each draw one from a hat or bowl. Explain that each one contains an action that they must do with the shoebox tied or taped to their foot (like jumping on one foot, doing the twist, flapping like a bird, etc.)
4. The goal of the game is to find their maker – half of the team has an invention on the bottom of their boxes and the other half has the maker.
5. TWO RULES: No talking and they have to be doing their action or move the entire time without stopping.
6. The first team to find their pair wins!
7. Keep going until everyone finds their pair.
8. At the end, you can have each pair explain their invention and inventor to everyone else.

WRAP IT UP:

St Augustine once said – “You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it rests in you.” Just like all of these inventions, they had a creator and inventor. Otherwise they could have never existed. We are no different and our maker is God. We seek him because we came from him and only he knows how to make us truly happy. He is a part of us and we need him in our lives or we feel incomplete.



TALK
ABOUT IT!

GETTING STARTED

List each member in attendance, and record a check mark if they brought their Conquest Member Book and are wearing their T-shirt

ATTENDEES

DATE:

NAME	MEMBER BOOK	T-SHIRT
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		
11.		
12.		
13.		
14.		
15.		

OPENING PRAYER

Ask a team member to lead the opening prayer (Invocation of the Holy Spirit) in the Conquest Member book. Ask the guys if they have any special intentions.



TIP:

Remind your team members to use their Conquest member books to record notes!

WEEK # 1

1 2 3 4 5 6

WHY DO WE BELIEVE AND SEEK GOD?

EXPERIENCE: DYNAMIC ACTIVITY



Remember – the activity is supposed to help the members have an experience that leads them to answer the question of the week.

VIDEO ANSWERS

VIDEO



ANSWERS

Watch the videos on the Conquest YouTube Channel – High School Team Leader Playlist which touch on the topic of the week. You can choose the ones that you think would best reach your team. After watching the videos, get their feedback and how they think the videos relate to the question of the week.

1. CREATED TO BE HAPPY (YOUCAT 1-3)

2. WEEKLY YOUCAT 2

3. WEEKLY YOUCAT 3

4. WEEKLY YOUCAT 5

5. WEEKLY YOUCAT 6

DISCUSSION ABOUT YOUCAT NUMBERS



EXPLANATION: Since this is year we are focusing on doing a YOUCAT study, we will take a moment each week to actually talk to your team about the question of the week and the numbers from the YOUCAT found on this weeks Meeting Guide Sheet.

1. The first thing to do is to read the numbers from the YOUCAT with everyone. You can assign each guy to read one of the numbers.
2. After each number ask if anyone has any questions about what it means. Give examples of things you maybe did not understand at first and take advantage of the definitions and explanations found throughout the YOUCAT in the margins to help you to better explain.
3. Ask how each number of the YOUCAT helps answer the question of the week. Go through and help them see that the Church does help us find answers to our deepest questions.

CONNECT: TO CHRIST - GOSPEL REFLECTION



Remember – the gospel reflection is a moment to help the guys understand how Jesus responded to the question of the week with his life or his words in the gospel.

Choose one of the guys to read the passage.

GOSPEL READING: JOHN 1: 35-43

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?



The next day John was there again with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said, “Behold, the Lamb of God.” The two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus. Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?” He said to them, “Come, and you will see.” So they went and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day. It was about four in the afternoon. Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, was one of the two who heard John and followed Jesus. He first found his own brother Simon and told him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed). Then he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon the son of John; you will be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter). The next day he decided to go to Galilee, and he found Philip. And Jesus said to him, “Follow me.”

GOSPEL INSIGHTS:

EXPLAIN THE GOSPEL PASSAGE TO YOUR TEAM SO THAT THEY CAN BETTER UNDERSTAND THE LIFE OF JESUS

This passage takes place right at the beginning of Jesus’ public ministry. He was just becoming somewhat of a local celebrity and teacher – preaching, curing people, doing miracles for those in need. John the Baptist was his cousin and they probably grew up together and were friends because they lived relatively close and were only months apart in age. The River Jordan was not too far from where Jesus and John lived and John had become a type of prophet and teacher in those parts. He would even baptize people in the river. He had disciples - which simply means followers. So Jesus went down to the river and saw John and two of his disciples. One of John’s disciples was Andrew – who was Peter’s brother. Andrew is looking for someone to lead him and he went after Jesus to talk to him. They spent the day with Jesus and it changed their lives forever. Andrew was a seeker who was trying to discover God and found that Jesus was the key. So Andrew went directly to Peter to share this treasure he had discovered: Jesus. Peter came right away. His name was originally Simon and Jesus named him Cephas – which means rock.

WHY DO WE BELIEVE AND SEEK GOD?

CONNECT: TO CHRIST - GOSPEL REFLECTION

REFLECTION QUESTIONS TO TALK ABOUT:



1. What do you think Andrew saw in Jesus when he followed him?
2. What do you think Jesus talked about or did with the two disciples that made
3. them want to run out and bring all their friends and family to him?
4. Have you ever discovered something you just could not keep to yourself and had to share?
5. Why did you want to bring others to experience it too?
6. Do you think that the apostles were seekers ?
7. Do you think they were trying to find God and their places in the world?
8. Do you think they found meaning in life after meeting Jesus?
9. Do you think they would have ever imagined what their lives would be like or the impact they would have on history?

HOW DID CHRIST HELP US ANSWER THIS WEEK'S QUESTION IN THIS PASSAGE?

Christ answers the question by showing us that everyone seeks God and we look for people who will help us grow in that faith. He shows in this passage how God crosses their path and seeks them out too because he is interested in our friendship too.

GOSPEL REFLECTION NOTES:

CONNECT TO OTHERS: IT'S NOT ONLY YOU



Remember – the goal of this moment is to help the members realize that they are not the only ones who have dealt with this question. Share the story of the saint or other inspirational story.

SAINT STORY:

SERVANT OF GOD FRANK PARATER



Francis Joseph Parater was born into a devout Catholic family in 1897 in Richmond, Virginia. His mother was a convert to Catholicism from the Episcopalian faith. He grew up in a close knit family and in the large Catholic Community. Frank's father was a city employee who cared for the park across from their very modest home. He also took care of the garden at the Monastery of the Visitation located two blocks from their home. From their home Frank could easily walk to the monastery for daily Mass where he served as an altar boy from the day of his first communion until he left Richmond for college. Frank was educated at the Xaverian Brother's School in Richmond. He graduated in 1917, top in his class and valedictorian. In his late teens, Frank became very active in youth groups. His involvement was so exemplary that he was asked to serve in roles of leadership even at his young age. At a time when the Catholic faith was not considered to be a social asset, Frank was well thought of by Catholics and non-Catholics alike. In fact, newspaper accounts note his achievements, his natural talents and his gifts of heart and mind.

In 1917, Frank began studies for the priesthood at Belmont Abbey Seminary College in North Carolina. He continued to lead a very devout life as is detailed in the journal he kept while there. His stated goal was: "To strive by every possible means to become a pure and worthy priest. " During this period, he continued to go to Mass and receive Holy Communion daily, prayed the Rosary and Memorare daily, and went to confession weekly. During the summers, while at Belmont Seminary College, he was active in the Knights of Columbus summer wartime activities for youth and was director of the summer camps. Frank was sent to study to be a priest in the North American College in Rome. Frank was instantly popular among his fellow seminarians and displayed a warm sense of humor and cheer as he continued to deepen his spiritual life.

In late January 1920, Frank Parater got rheumatic fever causing him tremendous suffering. He was taken to the hospital and the director of the seminary explained to Frank that his illness was grave, as he administered Last Rites. Frank Parater died the following day.

WHY DO WE BELIEVE AND SEEK GOD?

CONNECT TO OTHERS: IT'S NOT ONLY YOU



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SAINT STORY:

ST JOHN EUDES



St John was born in France in 1601 and went to school with the Jesuits. He became a priest and used his gifts as a preacher and confessor to travel and give parish missions. He saw that parish priests needed support in becoming men of prayer and action. He held conferences for them in which he outlined their duties. Later, John started his own society of priests called the Congregation of Jesus and Mary. The members were dedicated to promoting good seminary training, which would form Christ like priests.

He worked as a volunteer, caring for the victims of the plagues. Saint John Eudes has been called the Apostle of the Sacred Heart because he revived devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. He died in France in 1680. He was canonized in 1925. His feast day is August 19th.

DECIDE: TEAM COMMITMENT

LEAD YOUR TEAM TO COME TO A DECISION TO LIVE THEIR LIVES DIFFERENTLY AFTER THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITY...

WHAT WAS THE QUESTION WE STARTED OUT WITH?

Why do we believe and seek God?

WHAT DID WE FIND OUT? WHAT WAS OUR ANSWER?

We seek God and believe in him because he is our creator and maker. Our hearts yearn for God because he is an important part of our past, present and our future. The YOUCAT numbers explain that it is natural for man to seek God. The gospel shows us that Jesus seeks us out too.

SUGGESTIONS FOR PERSONAL COMMITMENTS

Every day I have the opportunity to conscientiously acknowledge that I need God.

WHAT IS SOMETHING WE CAN WORK ON TOGETHER AS A TEAM AND PUT THIS INTO PRACTICE?

Each of us could share our faith in God with someone in the next week whom we feel is seeking more in life.

OUR TEAM COMMITMENT FOR THIS WEEK:

WHY DO WE BELIEVE AND SEEK GOD?

PROJECT PLANNING

THIS WEEK'S PROJECT ACTION ITEMS

WHO	ACTION ITEM	NOTES
	Permissions: First seek the permission of the pastor to organize, promote and host a cardboard city at your parish.	
	Plan: This project should be planned, organized and executed well to be a success. First choose the location, date and time. Ideally it should be done on parish property seen by all on a Saturday night (best for raising awareness and collecting donations after weekend Masses). Window cleaning on parishioners cars in the parking lot while they are attending Mass will help move people to give a donation after Mass.	

WRAP UP & CLOSING PRAYER

V: We give you thanks Almighty God for all your gifts, living and reigning now and forever.

R: Amen.

V: Christ our King!

R: Thy Kingdom come!

V: Mary Most Pure, Queen of the Family!

R: Pray for us!