

FOREVER

Help Week Leader Guide

Help Week: A time for student leaders to equip their peers to become missionaries to their school, as they plan and pray for the month of campus ministry ahead.

CLUB TIME PREP:

- Select one student to lead this month's Help Week
- Ask one student to bring a pad of square post it notes to be shared during the Help week discussion.
- Remind students to post on social media and text friends reminding them about First Priority club time

INTRODUCTION: 3 minutes

Welcome Students, Prayer and Introduction

- **Assigned Leader Opens:** "Welcome to First Priority! This club is a place to seek and grow in God. This week is Help Week, which is where we help each other become missionaries to our school. This month we are discussing what it means to for Christians to live Forever and the impact that has on sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ."
- **Opening Prayer**
- **Introduce Student Leading Discussion:** "Today, my friend, _____, is going to share about why understanding eternity is vital to reaching our school with the gospel."



DISCUSSION: Living Forever (20 Minutes)

Assigned Speaker Suggestion: Today I would like to begin by reading a passage from John Chapter 14:

"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also." (John 14: 1-3 ESV)

Jesus has just shared some major moments with his disciples in Chapter 13 in the book of John. He washes their feet, He shares who will betray him, He gives them the new commandment of "love one another as you have been loved" and then shares with Peter that Peter too will deny him. It feels like a roller coaster ride of emotions in a very short time. All of that context in Chapter 13 brings clarity to why Jesus decides to share the text above with his friends.

One of the gifts of following Jesus is that we live forever with God. However, sometimes it can seem so hard to wrap our minds around forever? I mean think about it, as humans we tend to think in the temporary. We operate in days, or weeks, or even 30 minute television shows. But for God there is no beginning or end, there is only eternity or Forever.

Jesus has the great ability of helping His followers see into the future, in this case the future of eternity. As His disciples take in what He has just said to them, that not only is there a future place for them, but that He will in the right moment come back to get them. He is helping to bring calm and clarity to all we will face in the temporary.

I bet it's a fair guess that each of you this week have faced a few roller coaster rides of emotions. Bad test grade, a family member getting sick or just being treated poorly by someone who was supposed to be a friend. Reality is, as long as we live in the temporary, those things can really cause a mess in our lives. For you and I as Christ followers, Jesus has provided the promise of Living Forever with Him so we have a different perspective and can face those moments with confidence. In other words, no matter what we face when we begin to view our daily lives through eternity, it changes the way we react to each situation. For if my spirit is going to be connected to God forever, than the temporary can hurt me, it can effect me, but it cannot separate me from God's love for me.



FOREVER Help Week Leader Guide (continued)

Here is where this Forever perspective change gets fun. Jesus follows this discussion with this text out of John 14:

“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.” (John 14: 12-14 ESV)

Jesus, Son of God, Savior of the universe is letting us in on a little secret; Forever is not just about the future, but it's also about now for all of His followers. That when we believe that what Jesus has said is true about being with God for Forever, He will help us change today. God is asking us to ask Him to help us bring Forever to the way we live today. In that choosing to believe and ask, we will even do greater things than He did before. What a crazy thought!

I am asking my friend _____ to pass out a post it note to each of you. I want to ask you to write the words “Living Forever” on the top of your post it. Now spend a moment, write down a few ways that knowing the fact that God wants to be with you forever will change the way you view the week you are going to live. Once you have done that, open your binder or notebook to a place that you see each morning and place it there. As you start your school day pause and read that note there to remind you of the opportunity we have living Forever.



ACTION CHALLENGES:

- 1. Group Challenge:** Consider eternity together. If you are willing, share one of the ways you wrote on your post it note, that living Forever with God is helping adjust the way you live this week.
- 2. Share Challenge:** Be intentional this week about sharing with someone about your relationship with God through Christ and how it helps you deal with the real challenges you face each week.
- 3. Prayer Challenge:** Have one person pray to close your group time, asking the Lord to be close to you as you live out what was just

discussed.

WRAP UP: 2 minutes

- Share any FP Club announcements including that next week's meeting is Overcome Week.

