

FOREVER

Overcome Week Leader Guide

Overcome: A time for student leaders to encourage their peers to overcome their fears of sharing the Gospel.



CLUB TIME PREP:

- Select one student to lead this month's Overcome Week
- Post to social media and text friends inviting them to First Priority Club

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 Overcome week, which is where we encourage each other in how to overcome obstacles of sharing the gospel. This month we are discussing what it means 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 overcoming obstacles to sharing our faith.

DISCUSSION: Asking Jesus (20 minutes)

Assigned Speaker Suggestion: This month, we are talking about the understanding that we can live Forever through Christ and the impact He has on our lives. Today, I wanted to start with a story found in the Bible out of Luke Chapter 7. In this story, a Roman soldier who is over a group of 6,000 men has a servant who is sick, to the point of death. This Centurion soldier hears that Jesus is in his area and sends the local Jewish leaders to go and ask Jesus to help his servant.

Knowing this time in history, it makes total sense that the soldier would not just go to Jesus himself and ask for help. Jesus is a Jewish teacher, so sending the local Jewish leaders to Jesus on the soldiers behalf is culturally the norm. It is however, somewhat of a surprise that Jesus agrees to go with them to meet the soldier.

As Jesus is on his way to the man's house. Another messenger comes, this time one of the Centurions servants with a message from the soldier, *"Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof. Therefore I did not presume to come to you. But say the word, and let my servant be healed. For I too am a man set under authority, with soldiers under me: and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."*



The Bible says that Jesus marvels at this mans words. And then announces to all those around him, "I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith." Jesus is surrounded by his followers, by the local Jewish teachers and despite that he says the greatest faith is found in a man that he

has not even seen or met, but that man simply asked and believed.

Somewhere in history, asking for help became a sign of weakness. In our flesh we hear statements like "you must depend on yourself." Or, "at some point everyone is going to fail you, but you must never fail you." Frankly, even as I say those "self reliance" statements it makes me sad, because they fail to understand the real issues that face all of us.

As was mentioned earlier today by one of our other leaders, this month we are talking about what it means to live Forever in Christ. I believe this Centurion soldiers decision to not only ask but to also believe for what he is asking for can tell us a lot about what it mens to live Forever.

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Each day we face real stuff. Friendship stuff in the halls, family stuff in our homes, even locker room stuff on our teams. No matter what we face as Christ followers we have the right to Ask Jesus to come and be involved. Even more than that, we have the right to say to Jesus that we believe in what He can do. It's our stuff that gives us opportunities to activate our faith in living with Him forever, and believing that forever starts the moment we put our lives into his hands through salvation. So he doesn't want us to wait to ask, he wants us to ask and believe often!

As I finish today, consider the week you have ahead. What stuff do you see in the future? Tests, ball games, dance recitals, hanging with friends, how can you Ask Jesus to be part of each of those moments and live them out with Forever in mind? Remember, Jesus is looking for people who are willing to Ask and Believe. Will you? Or will you just rely on yourself and miss the gift of Forever that He wants to show you today.

APPLY IT:

Discussion Option 1: What do you think Jesus wants for your school? What things going on around you do you think he would be a part of if you just asked?

Discussion Option 2: What are some bold things we could pray for that would make this school closer to what God wants? How can we be a part of that?

ACTION CHALLENGES:

- 1. Group Challenge:** Consider eternity together. If you are willing, share one of the ways you wrote on your post it note from last week, that living forever with God is helping adjust the way you live this week.
- 2. Personal 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 Prepare Week.