



## INCLUDE (WEEK 1) SMALL GROUPS—DATING

Purpose: To inform every student about Godly dating standards.

### YOU WILL NEED:

- Refreshments

### SAMPLE MEETING AGENDA

1. Pre-meeting prayer (leaders)
2. Welcome and attendance
3. Announcements
  - Inspire week speaker
  - Invest week outreach
  - Outreach assignments to club members (hang up posters, invite friends, etc.)
  - Other
4. Icebreaker: "Human Knot"
5. Small group discussion
6. Prayer/dismiss



### ICEBREAKER: "HUMAN KNOT"

All students stand in one big circle. Facilitator directs the students to raise their right hands and grab the right hands of someone else in the circle other than the person standing next to him/her. Do the same with the left hands. The result is a knot. The students must work together to untangle the knot by turning and going under or over legs and arms. No one in the group can release hands until the knot has been untangled and the group is again in a circle. (Note: Some students may end up facing outside while some face inside.)

### DISCUSSION:

Divide into groups of three to five students and ask them to discuss the following questions. You may want to select a facilitator for each group to keep the discussion moving. You may also wish to provide each facilitator or each group with a list of the questions and comments to be discussed.

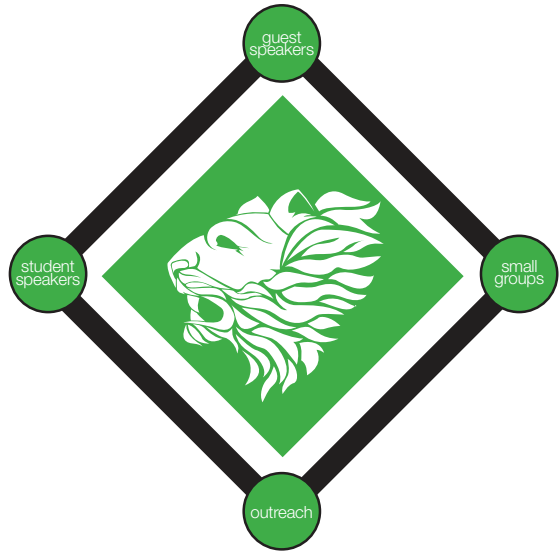
1. Who has shaped your morals on dating (family, friends, media, etc.)?
2. What do you think is "going too far"?
3. When did you set your dating standards (if they haven't yet set dating standards help them realize that this is something they should do)?
4. Why is it important to know what God thinks about dating?



5. How should you go about setting and carrying out your standards?

***If time allows, answer the following questions in your small groups:***

1. What can you apply from today's discussion to your life?
2. Do you have daily time alone with God in prayer and His Word?
3. What have you learned from God's Word this week?
4. Did you attend church or youth group this past week?
5. What did you learn from the message/lesson?



## PRAYER/DISMISS

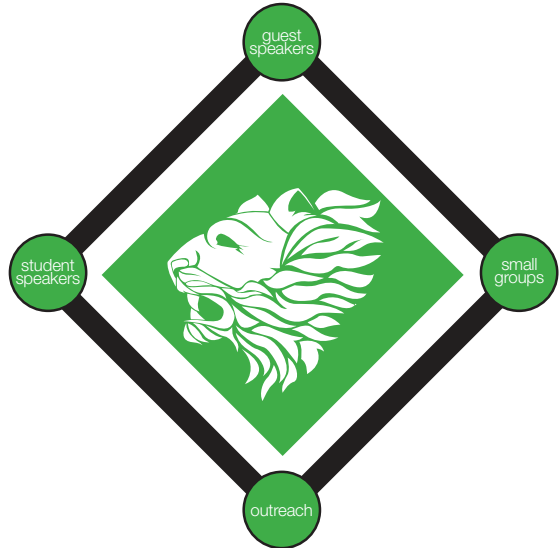


## INSPIRE (WEEK 2) GUEST SPEAKER—DATING

Purpose: To inspire the students to create and personally enforce dating standards.

### BEFORE THE MEETING:

- Invite speaker. Give the topic (Godly dating) and invitation at least two weeks in advance.
- Instruct the speaker how and when to wrap up his or her time.
- Instruct the speaker on what time and where to meet the day of the club.
- Select a student to meet the speaker at the office, help him or her sign in as a visitor, and take the speaker to the meeting room.
- Select a student to introduce the speaker. You will need to get background information prior to the meeting. Give the information to the student who will introduce the speaker. Instruct student to practice an introduction before meeting.
- Contact your guest speaker again a couple of days before the meeting to reconfirm everything. (This is also a good time to verify your introduction facts.)
- Remember the goal is to motivate students, not to share denominational issues.



### YOU WILL NEED:

- Speaker (Christian businessperson, teacher, sponsoring youth pastor, senior pastor, or other Christian leader)
- Refreshments

### MEETING AGENDA:

1. Pre-meeting prayer (leaders)
2. Welcome and attendance
3. Announcements
  - Invest week outreach event
  - Follow-up on or assign outreach assignments
4. Introduce speaker
5. Guest speaker
6. Prayer/dismiss



## INVOLVE (WEEK 3) STUDENT SPEAKERS—DATING

Purpose: To encourage students to create dating standards by using positive peer pressure.

### BEFORE THE MEETING:

- Ask two to three students to be prepared to speak using the outline below or have students develop an outline of their own that features the subject "Dating."
- Ask a youth pastor to review the written testimonies, if necessary, and give suggestions.

### YOU WILL NEED:

- Refreshments

### MEETING AGENDA:

1. Pre-meeting prayer (leaders)
2. Welcome and attendance
3. Announcements
  - Invest week outreach event
  - Follow-up on or assign outreach assignments
  - Other
4. Introduce student speakers (name and grade)
5. Student speakers
6. Questions and answers
7. Prayer/dismiss



### STUDENT SPEAKER OUTLINE:

Share your testimony of before and after you created dating standards for yourself. Tell students why you feel it is important to have dating standards and share the standards you have. Also, give the students ideas for how to stick to the standards they make.

### PRAYER/DISMISS:

Spend at least five minutes in prayer. Announce next week's speaker. Challenge the group to bring friends who are going through a challenging time to Invest week next week (e.g., students whose families are in crisis, students who have problems in school, who struggle with life, etc.)



## INVEST (WEEK 4) OUTREACH EVENT—DATING

Purpose: To invest the Message of hope, Jesus Christ, in your friends and on your campus.

### YOU WILL NEED:

- Food/breakfast (e.g., doughnuts). Ask a church to sponsor the cost as an evangelistic investment.
- Response cards and pens

### BEFORE THE MEETING:

- Think creatively. What can you do that would make your pre-Christian friends want to come to Youth Alive this week?
- Secure the speaker at least two weeks in advance. Give your speaker the following guidelines as he or she prepares:
  1. Be prepared to ask the students to respond to the message and receive Christ as their Savior and Lord.
  2. Speak confidently; clearly and energetically tell everyone about Jesus, then lead those who are willing in a prayer of repentance and faith.
  3. Keep in mind the purpose for the week. Response cards will be given out.
  4. This should not be a story of one's church, but of the Lord who wants a relationship with each person.
  5. Don't use religious terms (like "sanctified" or "redeemed"); visitors who have never been to church do not understand the lingo.
  6. Stay away from abstract, hard-to-define concepts and stick to the practical. What is applicable?
  7. Allow enough time at the end to pass out and collect response cards.
- Select members to be responsible for distributing and collecting response cards. Give them clear instruction as to when and how this should happen.
- Plan for effective follow-up. Students who bring friends should follow up with them concerning a commitment to Jesus, to answer questions, involve them in a local church, and bring them back next week for Include week's small groups.





## MEETING AGENDA:

1. Pre-meeting prayer (leaders)
2. Welcome and attendance
3. Announcements (Limit to date, time, and location for the next meeting)
4. Student testimony/gospel presentation
5. Invitation, prayer, response cards
6. Dismiss/initial follow-up

## STUDENT TESTIMONY/GOSPEL PRESENTATION:

### SUGGESTED TOPIC:

The pitfalls of how our society thinks of dating and how they personally have learned to have dating relationships that don't bring guilt. Talk about how Jesus has helped them realize that they need these standards and the fulfillment now compared to before they had set these standards.

## OTHER SUGGESTIONS:

- Worship band with gospel presentation, followed by an explanation of salvation.
- Creative drama with gospel presentation, followed by an explanation of salvation.
- Video with gospel presentation, followed by an explanation of salvation.

