



FUGE CAMPS

Preparing For Centrifuge

The key to effective, on-going youth ministry lies within caring, committed adult friends- whether they are youth ministers, parents, Sunday School teachers, pastors, college students, trip chaperones, or bus drivers. Experience has shown time and time again that consistent, relational, life-style ministry with young people not only penetrates their deepest needs, but also provides the greatest opportunity for genuine, lasting effect in their lives.

1.) PRAY- from the start, before all the plans are made. Ask God to help you discern the true needs of your group. Seek the Lord for your own preparedness.

2.) IDENTIFY NEEDS- of each individual young person who will be going; of those who need to be going; of the youth in general; of the church as a whole, and of your own. Where do you find yourself in your journey with Christ? What changes need to occur in order for you and your leaders to be of greatest service to Christ?

3.) HAND OUT AND REVIEW- the Sponsor's Information for Centrifuge hand-out, with all of your adults. Share with them the design and approach of Centrifuge as detailed within this packet. Take special notice that one of the best things about the Centrifuge program is that it encourages Sponsors to be primarily responsible for building relationships with their young people. Because this is such a priority, we do not ask the adults to teach, set chairs, or make cookies and punch. We ask that they just to **be with** their youth. The effects of this are profound!

4.) MAKE ASSIGNMENTS- for each adult to begin praying for, affirming, and encouraging the five individual young people for whom they will assume specific responsibility. Intercession is the greatest means we have in overcoming barriers and building bridges. It is essential in the lasting impact of relational ministry (besides, it will also put your leaders in the right spirit).

5.) MEET WITH YOUR YOUNG PEOPLE- who will be making the trip and follow a similar procedure: pray, identify needs, establish objectives, outline what to expect at Centrifuge, etc. Not all of them will understand the full purpose of the experience at this time, but God may just surprise them in a major way.

6.) MEET WITH PARENTS- of youth for the same purpose stated above, perhaps at the same time. The response of parents and the church family when a young person returns home from camp, excited about the Lord, often makes or breaks the longevity of that excitement, commitment, or change.

7.) PRAY- as you plan and prepare; expecting a tremendous blessing! Expect God to act in agreement with the promises of His Word. *"This is the assurance we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to His will, he hears us, and if we know that he hears us -whatever we ask- we know that we have what we asked of Him."* (1 John 5:14-15)

8.) THE MISSIONS OFFERING- this year will be promoted and explained at Centrifuge. The opportunity for campers to give to missions is a vital part of learning about missions support.