

# **LIFE Meeting**

## **Finding Time for Faith**

### **September 10, 2014**

**Emcee: Sarah**

**1. Icebreakers: Giants, Wizards, and Elves**

**2. Opening Prayer**

**Joe**

**3. Large Group: “baggage” reflection**

**Vince and Danielle**

**4. Small Group**

**5. Large Group: Discuss Small Group**

**6. Large Group: Video and Discussion**

**7. Closing Prayer**

**Danielle**

- **Next Meeting: October 1<sup>st</sup>**
- **Bring Pictures for bulletin board**
- **Sign up if you want to do something at a meeting**
- **Planning Meeting September 17<sup>th</sup>**



**Ice Breaker**  
Giants, Wizards & Elves

- A combo of tag and "Rock, Paper Scissors"
- Teach everyone the following three characters:
  - **Giant** - Tip-toes, raise hands above head, growling sounds
  - **Wizard** - Crouch slightly, wave and point a magic wand, shouting "kazaam!"
  - **Elf** - Hands cupped for big ears, shrill screeching noises
- Give people plenty of practice by calling out the characters and having them instantly become that character - offer lots of positive encouragement for dramatic effort
- Form two teams - each team convenes to decide on a character
- Teams then line up facing each other (use a rope on the ground to separate teams). Have ~ 4 feet between teams.
- Facilitator dramatically announces "1....2.....3.....", then teams adopt their poses, revealing their identity
- Immediately, the winning characters (team) must chase the losing team and try to capture (tag) as many as possible
  - Giant wins by 'squishing' an Elf
  - Elf wins by 'outwitting' a Wizard
  - Wizard wins by 'zapping' a Giant
  - Identical characters are a draw
- The losing characters try to reach a "safe zone" (e.g., over another rope) about 30-60 feet away without being captured
- Teams then reconvene and decide on their next character
- Continue until one team entirely consumes the other

## Opening Prayer

Sanctus Real

Pray

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lm2M4\\_8wfkQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lm2M4_8wfkQ)

I bow my head to pray, I don't know what  
to say  
I'm not sure how to fix the things I'm  
dealing with  
I'm in a desperate place, I need to share  
the weight  
But I just don't know how, to let it all pour  
out  
Though I'm silent, my heart is crying  
Cause I was made to come to You

So I pray  
God I need You more than words can say  
Right here in this moment  
You know my heart, You know my need  
You know every part of me  
So even if it's just to speak Your name  
I'm gonna pray

I failed to find the time, but You've been  
calling out  
I let the days go by as if I could live without  
But it's gotta be here now, I won't be  
pulled away  
Cause it's just You and I, so let the world  
around us fade

As I pray  
God I need You more than words can say  
Right here in this moment  
You know my heart, You know my need  
You know every part of me  
So even if it's just to speak Your name  
I'm gonna pray  
I'm gonna pray

(Father)  
Will You meet me here right now?  
(Father)  
I surrender, lay it down  
(Father)  
And every time I close my eyes  
I know that I was made  
To lift my hands and pray

I lift my hands and pray

You know my heart, You know my need  
And every single part of me  
So even if it's just to speak Your name  
I'm gonna pray  
I'm gonna pray

You know my heart, You know my need  
You know every part of me  
I bring willing words and one heart [?]  
Take it as an offering

As the book of Ecclesiastes says:

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven. a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.

Everything has its time, but we often struggle to realize what we should really be doing with our time. Often we forget to pray before a meal, before we go to bed, and for some of us to pray even at all. It is so important to find time for God. Without putting in the time for our relationship with God, it makes it difficult for our relationship with Him to grow.

Lord, help us to find the time for all of these things in our life, but especially help us find the time to share in your presence. Allow us to simply lift our hands and pray. Even if it's only to speak your name. Help us to just pray

## **Large Group 1**

Vince Rice LIFE presentation

In the daily life of a teenager, or anyone for that matter, we are all very busy. We are all involved in various things, take my (Vince's) life for example. In an average week of my (his) life I do all these various things;

- Go to class (give backpack)
- Search YouTube and find some music (give computer)
- Go to Student Council (give Student Council notebook)
- Get caught up on Snapchat (give cell phone)
- Go to football (give helmet)
- Do homework (give books)
- Take care of siblings (Have Meg come up)
- Go to work (give bow tie and vest)
- Hang out with my friends (Have a couple of people there)
- Go to Pastoral Council (give Bible)
- And go to LIFE (give LIFE shirt)

As you can see I am a pretty busy person in my day to day life and a lot of times I forget to remember to make time for God and that God is actually with me as I do all of these things though I may not always remember this. It's hard to remember that we must also make time for God and actually spend time with him because unlike most of the things of this world we cannot see physically see him, touch him, smell him, or hear him.

This doesn't mean that we can't do our best to make time for God in our lives because ultimately without him we don't exist. But finding time for God doesn't have to be hours and hours of prayerful conversation with God. I'm not saying that you guys have to go out and say a million Hail Marys before you go to bed every night because that is just not realistic. There are other ways, smaller ways, in which we can strengthen our relationship with God.

My mom is one of the most faith-filled people I know and over the years she has taught me this. Little prayers throughout the day can help a lot in strengthening you and God's relationship. All it takes is a little saying such as, Lord please help me on this test or help me to do my best in all that I do and to give you the glory. It doesn't even have to be a memorized prayer like the Our Father, though those prayers help a lot too. What I'm trying to say is that because we are so busy it can be just the little moments that can build your relationship, just a small saying of thanks, that's all it takes.

1 Kings 19:11-13 says, The Lord said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by. Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave. My mom says if you look closely you can see God in everything. Standing here I can look at each one of you and see something good and that good is God because all that God created is

good. God is everywhere and he is listening, it only takes a few seconds to talk to or to listen to him.

### **Reflection before small group:**

Sit back close your eyes and relax. Think about all the things in your life that are a distraction from your faith. Think about how much time you spend with God. Many times we forget that God is always with us and is there for us whenever we need him. While I read this, reflect on the words.

### **No Time**

I knelt to pray but not for long,  
I had too much to do.  
I had to hurry and get to work  
For bills would soon be due.  
So I knelt and said a hurried prayer,  
And jumped up off my knees.  
My Christian duty was now done  
My soul could rest at ease.  
All day long I had no time  
To spread a word of cheer.  
No time to speak of Christ to friends,  
They'd laugh at me I'd fear.  
No time, no time, too much to do,  
That was my constant cry,  
No time to give to souls in need  
But at last the time, the time to die.  
I went before the Lord,  
I came, I stood with downcast eyes.  
For in his hands God held a book;  
It was the book of life.  
God looked into his book and said  
"Your name I cannot find.  
I once was going to write it down . . .  
But never found the time"

The poem says that we are all busy and that we sometimes forget our faith. God is always there for us and wants to have a relationship with us but in order to do that we have to communicate just like in any other relationship. It doesn't have to be very long, just a little saying of thanks will do. As the saying goes you get out of it what you put into it.

## **Small Group**

### **Scripture**

Hold hands and interlock fingers so that all the weaknesses in the group are covered by each other's strengths.

### **Luke 10: 38-42**

As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!" "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

### **Reflection:**

Today most of us try to spread ourselves too thin with activities, sports, chores, friends, and your spiritual life with God. Many of you if time runs out you will cut out the time for God but end up just doing something else. This passage tells you that you have to pick what is more important: spending time with God or just doing something else. Spending time with God should be one of the most important things you do. So whether or not you have to do fewer activities or not hang out with your friends as long as you should always make time for God.

### **Discussion Questions**

1. Go around the circle saying name, grade, favorite cereal.
2. What activities / hobbies do you do on a daily basis?
3. Can you relate to Vince from the skit?
4. How are some ways you do relate to Vince?

### **Activity**

1. Each person gets their own piece of paper
2. They draw a person and draw images/symbols for all the activities they do
3. Have each person share their person with the small group explaining what everything means.

### **Discussion Questions**

1. How do you find time for God in your daily life?
2. Do you have trouble finding time for God?
3. Why do you think it's hard to find time for God?
4. If so how do you plan on making time for him? (Share some ways that you CAN make time for him)

### **Optional Activity**

Give everyone the sheet about having 15 hours to spend. And how they would spend it. After everyone is done have a discussion about the things they put down, including any surprises that they had.

# WHAT WILL I DO?

It is about 8 o'clock Saturday morning and you just woke up. You have 15 hours to burn before it is time to go to bed. Using the chart of activities below, show how much time you would like to spend on each activity, using up all of the 15 hours. If you want, you can show 0 hours on any activity.

Activity	Amount of Time
Watch TV	
Play Video Games	
Nap	
Read books or magazines	
Study or do homework	
Hang out with friends	
Eat	
Listen to Music	
Read the Bible	
Do Chores	
Pray/Worship God	
Exercise or Practice Sports	
Nap	
Get on my Phone (Snapchat, text, twitter, etc.)	
Surf the Internet	
<b>Total 15 Hours</b>	

## **Large Group Video**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vgMFXan9pjQ>

Although this video is sort of goofy it has some great points. Finding time for God is not just praying or reading the bible for a few minutes each day. The way we really should find time for God is by putting God into our everyday lives. Asking Him for help, thanking Him, and representing Him by living a moral Christian Lifestyle. God plays a huge role in our life even we don't always notice it but by making God present in our everyday life we are given the best opportunity to grow spiritually.

1. What were your impressions of the video?
2. Was the video too exaggerated or was it funny and made sense?
3. Did the video make any good points?
4. Do you think that spending 30 minutes with your bible really makes you a super Christian? Have any of you actually read the Bible? If no does that make you a bad Christian?
5. What actually makes you a super Christian?

## **Closing Prayer**

Simple Minds

Don't You (Forget about Me)

<http://youtu.be/0jHz0wF0lg>

Hey, hey, hey ,hey  
Ohhh...

Won't you come see about me?  
I'll be alone, dancing you know it baby

Tell me your troubles and doubts  
Giving me everything inside and out and  
Love's strange so real in the dark  
Think of the tender things that we were working on

Slow change may pull us apart  
When the light gets into your heart, baby

Don't You Forget About Me  
Don't Don't Don't Don't  
Don't You Forget About Me

Will you stand above me?  
Look my way, never love me  
Rain keeps falling, rain keeps falling  
Down, down, down

Will you recognize me?  
Call my name or walk on by

Rain keeps falling, rain keeps falling  
Down, down, down, down

Hey, hey, hey, hey  
Ohhhh.....

Don't you try to pretend  
It's my feeling we'll win in the end  
I won't harm you or touch your defenses  
Vanity and security

Don't you forget about me  
I'll be alone, dancing you know it baby  
Going to take you apart  
I'll put us back together at heart, baby

Don't You Forget About Me  
Don't Don't Don't Don't  
Don't You Forget About Me

As you walk on by  
Will you call my name?  
As you walk on by  
Will you call my name?  
When you walk away

Or will you walk away?  
Will you walk on by?  
Come on - call my name  
Will you call my name?

I say:  
La la la...

**Reflection:**

I chose the song "Don't You (Forget About Me)" by Simple Minds, because I believe it is a good demonstration as to how God can always be found in our lives, and how he wants us to be with us, even when we forget about him. High School is a stressful and busy time for all of us, and it is easy for one to forget that God is always there for us. "Slow change to pull us apart" from God, but like the song says, God doesn't want us to "forget about [him]" and challenges us to find time for him in our daily lives. He wants us to be able to come to him with all of our "troubles and doubts, giving [him] everything inside and out". Any problem or stress that may occur in our lives can easily be relieved through the power of God. So the next time just "walk on by", will you "call [his] name" and pray to God?

Dear Lord, please help us all to find you in our daily lives and not just "walk on by" but truly "call [your] name" through our words, actions, and prayers. In your name we pray, may the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be glorified in all places through the Immaculate Virgin Mary.  
Amen