



Inning Purpose: To discover the importance of dreams and begin to think of plans and ideas for the next year.

INCLUDE (WEEK 1) SMALL GROUPS—PREPARING: DREAM FOR THE FUTURE

YOU WILL NEED:

- Pens or pencils
- Copies of the “YA Top 10 List” (page 4)
- Refreshments

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.)
4. Icebreaker
5. Small group discussion
6. Biblical support and application
7. Prayer/dismiss



ICEBREAKER:

Answer the question, “If you could choose just one career or job, what would your dream job be (e.g., professional athlete, artist, missionary, doctor, lawyer, veterinarian, etc.)?”

DISCUSSION (FORM GROUPS OF THREE TO FIVE STUDENTS):

1. “What is so appealing about your dream job?”
2. “What would be the ultimate birthday present? Why?”
3. “Do you ever think you will obtain any of your dreams or goals? Why or why not?”
4. “Do you think having dreams or goals are important? Why or why not?”
5. “Do you think it is necessary to have dreams for our club? Why or why not?”
6. Distribute the “YA Top 10 List” on page 4. Ask:
“What things can be done to improve the club for next year (e.g., meeting ideas, ways to build leadership, outreach and evangelism ideas, ways to welcome new people, community outreaches or volunteering ideas, connecting to more local churches and youth ministries, connecting with more Christian students on campus, etc.)?” The ideas



are endless. Make sure you collect everyone's sheets. (Keep it anonymous, so no one feels pressure.) The new club leadership can review the sheets and use the ideas next year.

BIBLE SUPPORT AND APPLICATION:

God's Word indicates not only the importance of dreams, but it constantly shows how dreams propelled many godly leaders to accomplish God's will and purposes.

1. Dreams (visions) are important. (See Proverbs 29:18.) In the KJV, this passage tells us that where there is not a dream or vision, the people "perish." (The NIV says "cast off restraint.") This is not a positive picture!

People without dreams or vision for their lives have no hope or motivation. When we capture God's dreams for our lives, God gives us hope, life, a desire to know Him, and a passion to share Him with others. Dreams play a huge role in our lives!

2. God's dreams do become real. (See Nehemiah 1,2.)
 - a. Nehemiah's dream was huge. The dream God gave Nehemiah started as a burden for his hometown which had been destroyed. (See Nehemiah 1.) God gave Nehemiah a dream to return to his home town to rebuild the city walls and gates. This was no small task!
 - b. God opened doors for Nehemiah's dream to be accomplished. (See chapter two.) Look what God did to confirm that this was His dream, as well as Nehemiah's.
 - c. Nehemiah received:
 - Favor and permission from His king (2:1-6).
 - Letters from the king providing authority to travel (2:7).
 - Permission from the king to acquire the necessary materials to rebuild the city walls and gates (2:8).
 - An armed escort to protect Nehemiah from enemies and robbers (2:9). God not only gave Nehemiah a dream, but God supplied all the resources needed to accomplish the dream!
 - d. Nehemiah inspected the wall (2:11-20). Nehemiah saw the damage and knew exactly what supplies and resources were needed.
 - e. Nehemiah's dream became the dream of others (2:17,18). Notice how the language changes from "I" to "us." In order to present Christ to our school, the dream cannot





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belong to just one person. God's dreams for our campus will come true as all of us work together.

3. God has dreams and plans for our lives. (See Jeremiah 29:11.) God knows the plans He has for us. His plans are not to bring us harm, but to bless us. God's plans give us hope and a future. All this begins with our relationship with Jesus. The very first desire God has for us is to have a personal friendship with Him every day. We can receive this in our lives today.

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 service this past week?
5. What did you learn from the message/lesson?

PRAYER/DISMISS

Refer to "Leading Someone to Christ in a Youth Alive Club Meeting."





YA TOP 10 LIST

Dream about any ideas to better the club: meeting ideas, outreach ideas, fundraising, connecting with more Christians in our school, etc. List practical “dreams” we can use in the coming year as it relates to the YA club. Don’t put your name on this sheet; these will be turned in so we can plan next year.

Tip: Use the ideas below to get you started. Some of your dreams may fall into these areas, but don’t feel limited by these suggestions.

1. Club meeting ideas:
2. Ways to build better leadership:
3. Outreach and evangelism ideas:
4. Ways to welcome visitors:
5. Community outreach or volunteering ideas:
6. Fundraising ideas:
7. Connecting with more churches:
8. My dream is that our Youth Alive club would:
9. My dream is that our Youth Alive club would:
10. My dream is that our Youth Alive club would:



INSPIRE (WEEK 2) GUEST SPEAKER—PREPARE

Purpose: To challenge the club members to prepare now for the coming year.

BEFORE THE MEETING:

- Invite the speaker at least two weeks in advance and give him or her the topic (unity and teamwork).
- Instruct the speaker when to wrap up his or her time.
- Instruct the speaker 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 him or her 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 him or her to practice the introduction before the meeting.
- Contact your guest speaker again a day or two before the meeting to reconfirm everything. (This is also a good time to verify your facts for the introduction.)
- Remember the goal is to motivate students, not to share denominational issues.

YOU WILL NEED:

- Speaker (Possible speakers: Christian businessperson, teacher, sponsoring youth pastor, pastor, or Christian leader known for his or her ability to witness.)

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 speaker
5. Guest speaker
6. Prayer/dismiss

ICEBREAKER:

No icebreaker is listed due to time limitations.

POSSIBLE TOPICS:

Don't feel limited by this list, but the following can serve as great topics as this school year ends and you begin to think about next year.

- Making Dreams a Reality
- Dream Maintenance



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- Perseverance (or, Keeping Commitments)
- Future Planning
- Soul Winning/Evangelism
- How to Spend Your Summer
- Any hot topic in school (such as suicide, sex, etc.)

PRAYER/DISMISS

Note: Be sure to send a thank you card to your speaker as soon as possible after the meeting.





INVOLVE (WEEK 3) STUDENT SPEAKERS—DARE TO DREAM

Purpose: To inspire the club to dream what God can do through them on the campus.

BEFORE THE MEETING:

- Ask two to three students to be prepared to speak using the outline on the next page or to develop an outline of their own that features the subject “leaving a legacy.”
- Ask a youth pastor to review the written testimonies, if necessary, and give suggestions.
- Before the meeting, establish an obstacle course using chairs, desks, etc.

FOR THE MEETING:

- Plastic spoons and Ping-Pong balls (for 3-4 teams)
- Prizes (e.g., candy bars or soda) for the winning team
- Prepare and develop student testimonies. (When selecting your student speakers, give each student a different section of the student speaker outline to develop and prepare.)
- Refreshments

MEETING AGENDA:

1. Pre-meeting prayer (leaders)
2. Welcome and attendance
3. Announcements
4. Icebreaker
5. Introduce student speakers (name and grade.)
6. Student speakers
7. Questions and answers
8. Prayer/dismiss

ICEBREAKER: “PING-PONG RELAY”

Divide the group into three or four teams, each team forming a line on one side of the room. The object is to place a spoon in one’s mouth and balance a Ping-Pong ball on the spoon. As each team member balances the ball on the spoon, he or she will race from one end of the room to the other. You cannot touch the ball with your hands or body. If the ball falls off the spoon, the player must go back to the front of the line and start over. The first team to have all its members successfully complete the relay, wins. (Note: To make the relay more challenging, create an obstacle course through which the players must complete the relay.)





SUGGESTED OUTLINE

“DARE TO DREAM” (GENESIS 37:5; 39:2,21,23)

1. The Hope

Dreams are important to our lives. They bring hope to our present circumstances. When Joseph dreamed, he had to endure:

- Hatred from his brothers (Genesis 37:5).
- A plot to kill him, which eventually sold him into slavery (Genesis 37:18,28).
- False accusations (Genesis 39:14–18).
- Prison (Genesis 39:20).
- Abandonment (Genesis 40:23).

Joseph made it through these times, because he trusted in God and he knew God was the source for his dreams. He never doubted God. Genesis 39:2,21,23 tell us the Lord was with Joseph. Joseph had confidence because of God’s presence in his life.

2. The Hindrances to Dreams

Every dream has obstacles to overcome. Nothing worthwhile is easy. We must recognize some obstacles that will come our way so we don’t get discouraged.

- a. Failure to stay with the dream. Many walk away thinking the dream will never come true.
- b. Failure to continue trusting God. God completes the task. The dream does not depend upon our talents or abilities.
- c. Failure to plan. How you will accomplish your dreams? What do you need? Who do you need to talk to? Who can help you realize your dream? Start planning now.
- d. Fear of failure. Disappointments and failure are a part of every dream. Look what Joseph went through! Dreams are never pain-free. Failure isn’t an ending, but a beginning.
- e. Listening to negative opinions. Others may try to kill your dream. Joseph was imprisoned, Noah was laughed at, and Nehemiah was ridiculed. Each of these men held to their dreams. We lose our dreams if we allow negative opinions to take them.

3. The Humble Beginnings

The beginning to any dream is small. For dreams to become reality, one must faithfully pursue a relationship with God. This is not always easy to do, just like balancing the Ping-Pong ball on a spoon wasn’t easy. It can be done. In order for God’s dreams to become realities in our lives, we must:

- Seek God’s direction.
- Listen to God’s direction.
- Be obedient to follow through on His direction.

Some of you might face intense situations or pressures today. Joseph went through those moments; and yet, God was with him. Share how Christ changed your life and how Jesus was



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with you in the tough times.

Jesus will always be with you through anything you face. Give your life to Jesus today and begin to dream of what can happen in your life.

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, who have problems in school, who struggles with life, etc.).



INVEST (WEEK 4) OUTREACH EVENT—PREPARE

OPTION 1: “SEE YOU AT THE GRILL”

Purpose: To invest the Message of hope, Jesus Christ, in your friends on your campus. The school year started with prayer at “See You At The Pole.” Why not end the year in evangelism at the very spot you began the year—at the pole?

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.

YOU WILL NEED:

- Permission from school officials prior to this event. If possible, schedule this event to be held during your school’s lunch break. If you can’t grill at school, get a local church to host a post-school party and grill there.
- Coins, tennis balls, and paperback books
- Prizes for the winning team (e.g., candy bars, sodas, gift certificates, or Christian music CDs—you can get them donated from local businesses)
- Food (hamburgers, hot dogs), condiments (ketchup, mustard, buns), chips, and soda
- Adults to help to set up, start grills, pre-cook some food, tear down, and haul grills off campus.



MEETING AGENDA:

1. Pre-meeting prayer (leaders)
2. Welcome and attendance
3. Announcements (Limit to date, time, and location for the next meeting)
4. Icebreaker (optional)
5. Introduce student speaker
6. Student testimony/gospel presentation
7. Invitation, prayer, response cards
8. Serve food, eat, clean up, and dismiss

ICEBREAKER: "RELAY CHALLENGE"

Divide the group into teams. Each team should form a line at one end of the designated "playing field." Give the first person in each line a quarter, a tennis ball, and a paperback book. The object is for the player to balance the book on his head, hold the coin on his eye, and keep the tennis ball between his knees using only his hands to balance himself while he runs to a designated spot and back. He is not allowed to touch any of the items other than the coin. When he returns, the next person in line does the same thing. Repeat until all members of the team have gone. The first team to have all members complete the relay, or the team farthest ahead after a five-minute time limit, is the winner. If a player drops any of the objects, he must go back to the starting line and begin again.

SUGGESTED OUTLINE

INVITATION AND PRAYER:

Refer to "Leading Someone to Christ in a YA Meeting" for help and ideas.

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.



INVEST (WEEK 4) OUTREACH EVENT—PREPARE

OPTION 2: “TEACHER APPRECIATION”

Purpose: To say “thank you” for all the sacrifices teachers make for their students.

BEFORE THE MEETING:

- Invitations (Make them nice; use a thank you card or design them yourself. Hand deliver to each teacher/faculty member three to four weeks before the event.)

YOU WILL NEED:

- Cake, cookies, or other desserts, coffee, and soda

MEETING AGENDA:

1. Pre-meeting prayer (leaders)
2. Announcements (Limit to date, time, and location for the next meeting.)
3. Teacher appreciation
4. Introduce teacher/administrator (Feel free to use a student testimony as well.)
5. Testimony
6. Invitation, prayer, response cards
7. Final words of thanks and dismiss

ICEBREAKER:

No icebreaker is recommended.

TEACHER APPRECIATION:

Ask a student from the club to share a positive word of thanks to every teacher and administrator for their hard work and efforts. Invite office secretaries, janitors, principals, etc. For those who are unable to attend, leave leftover cake in the faculty lounge with a note of thanks from the club.

TEACHER/FACULTY OR STUDENT TESTIMONY:

Ask a teacher to share his or her testimony.

INVITATION AND PRAYER:

Refer to “Leading Someone to Christ in a Youth Alive Club Meeting.” Give a copy of this ahead of time to the teacher/administrator sharing his/her testimony.

CLOSING WORD OF THANKS/DISMISS:

Thank all the school officials who came, then dismiss.