



Summer Projects Conversation Guide

Why have these conversations

1. To teach students to make lifelong decisions based off God, His Word, and prayer
 - Our primary goal is not just to get students to do a summer program. We are teaching them to make decisions about their summer that will help them make decisions for a lifetime. That is why the primary goal is to get students to make a decision based off God, His Word, and prayer. Hopefully this will impact their decision making in the future about who they marry, where they live, and what job they do. We want each student to get before God and make a decision. We will leave the results to God.
2. College summers offer a unique opportunity to grow in faith and be equipped to make disciples for a lifetime
 - College students have a unique opportunity with 3 or 4 summers free to do whatever they want. We have seen over and over God use summer projects to change students lives as they grew deeper in love with Jesus and were equipped to make disciples for a lifetime. We have these conversations with students about their summer because it is such a unique opportunity in their life and a unique program that is specifically designed to help them grow in Christ.

What to do and not to do

1. Pray beforehand
 - Summer conversations are a great opportunity to have a discipleship conversation with the students you lead. But at the same time, our motivations can be easily turned when we are trying to recruit for numbers sake or some other vain reason. It is important to spend time before each conversation in prayer asking God to give you pure motives and to have as your goal to serve these students with the conversation and not yourself.
2. Don't say "you ought" or "you should"
 - We need to be careful with our language. We need to clarify what is our opinion and what is the Word of God. Instead of telling someone they should do this project. We

can tell them that based off their life and the summer project we believe this is the best opportunity for them.

3. Follow up with a prayer challenge
 - The primary goal is to help our students make decisions based off God, His Word, and prayer. If this is the goal then we know to show that by following up with the students about their time in prayer. We don't just want students to do some summer program but we want them to get before God and make a decision. We need to help them do that by the way we lead them and follow up.
4. Ask them to apply but do not guarantee they will be accepted

Summer Conversation Training Sheet

1. Pray and give the “why” of the meeting
 - Students to make decisions based off God, His Word, and prayer
 - Summers are a unique opportunity to grow in the faith and be equipped to make disciples for a lifetime
2. Hear their story and get their thoughts on next summer
3. Ask good questions on why they are thinking what they are thinking
4. Give vision for what the opportunity is and why it would be great for them
 - Explain the specific opportunity
 - Great Opportunity
 - Increased understanding of the gospel
 - Learn how to practically make disciples
 - Spiritual growth in a “greenhouse” environment
 - Skills development – Bible study, leadership, evangelism, prayer
 - Increased heart for the nations
 - Amazing community
 - FUN!
 - Great Need
 - “Harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few” – Matt 9
 - 1/3 of the world has never even heard the gospel
 - Great God
 - We have a great God who is worthy of our entire lives and our summer. Why not give a summer to grow in your relationship with him?
 - Share your story of how missions has impacted your life.

5. Ask what they think.

- Listen carefully to their thoughts and ask follow up questions.
- Be prepared to discuss common barriers (parent's expectations, finances, etc.).

6. Ask them to commit to pray.

- Make sure they realize this is a decision between them and the Lord.
- Ask them to take 7 days to pray specifically about the opportunity.

7. Next Steps.

- Tell them you are here to walk with them through it and will follow up with them about their prayer time.
- Share the application deadline.
- Pray together.