



Group Prep Study Materials

GROUP LEADERS/PREP STUDY LEADERS:

We at **BOUNCE** value preparation. It's an important part of what we do. A **BOUNCE** Mission doesn't just happen. Our staff, coordinators, and ministry partners who work year-round to insure **BOUNCE** Participants – **BOUNCERS** – have a meaningful ministry experience to impact communities for Christ.

We also believe that **BOUNCERS** who are prepared can be more effective. That being the case, we have developed the following **BOUNCE Prep Study Materials** for your group:

- **PREP STUDY: 5 THINGS to KNOW** (designed for Student Disaster Recovery Participants)
This session includes a short video and some teaching procedures
- **PREP STUDY: EVANGELISM TRAINING COURSE** (designed for Disaster Recovery & Church Planting Missions)
SESSION 1 – Developing Our Testimony
This session includes a short video, teaching procedures, and Worksheet
- **PREP STUDY: EVANGELISM TRAINING COURSE** (designed for Disaster Recovery & Church Planting Missions)
SESSION 2 – The Gospel Presentation
This session includes a short video and teaching procedures
- **PREP STUDY: PREPARING THE BOUNCER'S FAMILY** (designed for Disaster Recovery & Church Planting Missions)
This session is a suggested approach to get the **BOUNCER'S FAMILY** prepared for their **BOUNCE** Mission

We are grateful you have partnered with **BOUNCE** to mobilize your students and we appreciate you preparing them for their mission service.

Blessings,
David Scott, Director
BOUNCE Student Disaster Recovery/Church Planting

Prep Study: 5 THINGS to KNOW

(designed for Student Disaster Recovery Participants)

WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

- 5 THINGS to KNOW Video
- A video source to show the video
- Samples of Devotional Materials (optional)
- Names of your **BOUNCE** Coordinating Team

STEP ONE: INTRODUCTION

Begin the session by welcoming participants to the session and affirming them for participating in mission service.

ASK THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- How many of you are going on your first mission trip? (affirm)
- How many of you have been on mission trips before? Why are you going again? How important is it to be prepared for a mission trip? What kind of things should we do to be prepared?

SAY: It's important we prepare ourselves. In the following sessions, we will spend some time preparing for our **BOUNCE** Mission experience.

STEP TWO: 5 THINGS to KNOW Video

Direct students to the video screen, show the 5 THINGS to KNOW video. After viewing the video, spend some time debriefing the video. You might consider **ASKING** some of the following questions:

- One of the first things Carlos mentioned was the "you are an answer to someone's prayer." How does that make you feel? (Be sure to debrief answers and ask follow-up questions to insure good discussion.)
- Carlos said it would be important to "respect living conditions" of the residents. Why do you think that's important?
- Carlos said to "BOUNCE back home." What are some things each of us could do as individuals or as a group to serve in our communities? Why do you think that's important? (One of the goals of BOUNCE is to create a lifestyle of mission service – we want students to realize opportunities for service are all around them.)
- What do you think it means to be "created for missions"?

STEP THREE: SPIRITUAL PREPARATION

(This step refers to spending time in God's Word and in prayer. If your church provides devotional materials or plans for students to do so, refer to those in this step, or suggest a plan or materials for use – have samples available.)

SAY: Spiritual Preparation will no doubt play an important role in getting yourself ready for **BOUNCE**. If you haven't established the habit of spending time in God's Word and in prayer, let me encourage you to do so.

NOTE: It might be helpful to share what your personal plan is, or have some students share about their personal approaches to spending time with God.

SAY/ASK: Regarding prayer, how do you think we should be praying for our **BOUNCE** Mission? Allow the students to share. Here are some possibilities you could share with them:

- Pray for the resident/community you will serve at **BOUNCE**.
- Pray for the **BOUNCE** Coordinating Team (share their names if you like).
- Pray for the Collegiate Staff who will be serving you at **BOUNCE**.
- Pray for the other churches that will be participating.
- Pray for opportunities to share Christ in the community.

SAY/DO: It will also be important that we pray for each other. As we wrap things up for this session, let's gather in small groups to pray. Share one thing your prayer partners can pray about regarding your own personal preparation for the mission. Commit to pray for each other in the days ahead.

After a few moments of sharing, **READ EPHESIANS 2:10**. Remind the group we have been "created for missions." Close the session in prayer.

PREP STUDY: EVANGELISM TRAINING COURSE

(designed for Disaster Recovery & Church Planting Missions)

SESSION 1 – **Developing Our Testimony**

WHAT YOU WILL NEED

- SESSION 1 – **Developing Our Testimony Video**
- A video source to show the video
- Developing Your Personal Story/Your Turn Worksheet (enough for each participant)
- Pens/Pencils for each participant

STEP ONE: INTRODUCTION

Welcome participants to the session and let them know you are happy to have them preparing for mission service at **BOUNCE**.

SAY: It is important, as believers and missionaries, we be able to share about the hope we have.

READ 1 Peter 3:15. So, today we are going to start training for evangelism opportunities that may come our way on our mission trip, and even in our everyday lives.

STEP TWO: DEVELOPING OUR TESTIMONY VIDEO

SAY: We begin evangelism training by viewing the first evangelism training video that deals with our personal testimony.

Show the video.

STEP THREE: YOUR TURN!

Distribute pens/pencils and the Developing Your Personal Story sheet and the Your Turn! worksheet to participants. Debrief the video by going over the Developing Your Personal Story sheet. Have the participants complete the Your Turn! worksheet and practice sharing their personal story with another participant.

Encourage them to practice throughout the week. Tell participants during the next study they will be learning to share a Gospel presentation.

Dismiss in a time of prayer for participants and their upcoming **BOUNCE** Mission.

PREP STUDY: EVANGELISM TRAINING COURSE

(designed for Disaster Recovery & Church Planting Missions)

SESSION 2 – *The Gospel Presentation*

WHAT YOU WILL NEED

- SESSION 2 – *The Gospel Presentation*
- A video source to show the video
- Sheets of paper (enough for each participant)
- Pens/Pencils for each participant
- Marker Board and Dry Erase Markers (optional)

STEP ONE: INTRODUCTION

Welcome participants back to the prep study. **ASK:** Did anyone practice sharing their Personal Stories this week? Would anyone be willing to share their Personal Story with us? (It might be a good idea to enlist a student who would be willing to share during the prep study.)

STEP TWO: THE GOSPEL PRESENTATION

SAY: We will continue our important preparation now by watching The Gospel Presentation video.

(OPTIONAL NOTE: It may be helpful to write down the verses, words, and diagram Preston shares on a marker board as the video plays. Students may find this information a helpful reference during STEP THREE.)

STEP THREE: GOSPEL PRESENTATION PRACTICE

After the video concludes, distribute paper and pens/pencils and allow participants to practice the presentation with each other. Encourage them to take their work home and to continue to practice.

Challenge them to look for opportunities to share their Personal Story and the Gospel throughout the week and in the days prior to their **BOUNCE** Mission Experience.

Close the study in prayer asking God to provide evangelistic opportunities for participants.

PREP STUDY: PREPARING THE BOUNCER'S FAMILY

(designed for Disaster Recovery & Church Planting Missions)

WHAT YOU WILL NEED

- Copies of the BOUNCE PARTICIPANT FORM (available under the GROUP LEADER Tab on the BOUNCE website)
- Copies of WHAT TO BRING LIST (available in the GROUP LEADERS HANDBOOK (GLH) under the GROUP LEADER Tab on the BOUNCE Website – please note there are separate GLH for Student Disaster Recovery Missions and Student Church Planting Missions)
- Enlist a Notary Public to notarize PARTICIPANT FORMS – if you have a Notary in your church, this would be helpful to parents/guardians to be able to take care of all the forms during this session.
- Be prepared to get copies of participant insurance cards that will be attached to their PARTICIPANT FORMS – all participants must have medical insurance to participate in BOUNCE
- Plenty of pens for filling out forms
- Snacks and Drinks (optional)

STEP ONE: WELCOME FAMILIES

Have snacks and drinks available as BOUNCER Families arrive (optional)

Welcome them as they arrive and instruct them to pick up a BOUNCE PARTICIPANT FORM, a pen, and a WHAT TO BRING LIST. Ask them to begin the process of filling out the PARTICIPANT FORM and tell them there will be more instructions coming.

STEP TWO: SHARING THE DETAILS

Take a few moments to do the following:

- Share information on where you are going to be serving, lodging, and what you know of the ministry you will be providing during your mission
- Highlight the Participant Guidelines located on the PARTICIPANT FORM – reinforce these expectations for the week of service
- Go over the WHAT TO BRING LIST – deal with any question parents/guardians may have
- Share any travel details you deem necessary – departure day/time, return day/time, etc.
- Give instructions regarding the notary, collecting copies of insurance cards, collecting final payments, etc.

STEP THREE: CLOSING IN PRAYER

After sharing details, take a few moments to share your hopes for the students and their mission experience. Recognize any students that may be attending their first mission trip and celebrate them. If you have experienced missionary students, perhaps ask one or two of them to share why they are returning for this mission trip. Conclude the time by asking a few parents to offer a prayer over the students before collecting all information listed in STEP TWO. Instruct BOUNCER Families they are free to leave after everything is completed.

Developing Your Personal Story

Watch the training video associated with this worksheet to see how to share how God's story has been applied to your life before writing out your story. The video will give you an example of what a **personal story** should look like. It will also help you understand the purpose of your story and why you should always include your story when sharing the Gospel presentation.

What is the purpose of your story and what should it look like?

Our story is different from the **Gospel Presentation** in two ways. First, it is a story that's personally about us, not the person we are sharing it with. The **Gospel Presentation**, on the other hand, is applicable to both. Second, our story is a "teaser", much like a movie trailer. Our story is meant to 'wet the mouth' of the hearer. At the end of our story, we want the person we are sharing with to feel as though they have just eaten a huge bag of salty peanuts with nothing to drink. The goal is for their mouths to water for the answer to their problem. What is their problem? Many of the people we will talk to will be living a life separated from God. The fruit of such a life is discord, a lack of peace and lasting joy, and an emptiness that can only be filled by having a true relationship with our Creator. We must clearly and effectively communicate the problem so they will feel a need to seek the solution. Let us move on to what the **Personal Story** should look like.

Our story should never be more than three to five minutes. Also, it should not be focused on sharing the **Gospel**. We will get to the **Gospel Presentation** later. But our story IS NOT the **Gospel** story. It is how the **Gospel** story has been applied to our life. When sharing our **Personal Story**, we should focus on helping the person we are sharing with to know that they are not too far from God's reach. Use an opening phrase like, "If you really knew me..." This helps them see that Christians aren't perfect and that we are just like they are, except now we have hope and forgiveness. A suggested way to end our story is like this:

"So, if you really knew me you would know that I once struggled with _____, but now Jesus has forgiven me and given me a new purpose and a new hope. The truth is we all struggle with something. It is because of our sin, which makes us separated from God not by his choice, but by our choice to sin rather than follow God. The Bible says, 'For ALL have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.' That means every one of us. Can I share with you what turned it around for me?"

By ending our story like this, we will be setting the person up for the **Gospel Presentation** by making them really consider their spiritual condition. Plus, the first verse in the **Gospel Presentation** is Romans 3:23 and the first word in the presentation is the word "Fall". Ending our story with the sentences above will help us to smoothly transition into the **Gospel** story. Now let's begin writing our **Personal Story**.

Your turn!

Fill out the following worksheet and have a Leader read over it with you.

What was your life like before you became a Christian? *(You haven't always been a Christian. If you can't remember ever accepting Jesus as your Lord and Savior then stop and talk to your Leader. Your testimony might start right now! You might start with "If you really knew me..." here)*

What is an event that made you realize you were separated from God and in need of forgiveness? *(Keep in mind that you may have been saved at an early age but have just recently given him full ownership of your life. Your testimony may be like Preston's in the video. He would write in this section about the night God stopped him from asking forgiveness. Maybe you will write something like that as well. You might start with "If you really knew me..." here)*

Tell us about the experience you had when you made Jesus Lord and Savior. *(This may be your salvation moment, or it might be a turning point in your understanding of God's love and forgiveness. Remember Preston's story in the video? The turning point for him was when God healed him from a horrible car wreck. His life has never been the same. What event has been the turning point for you?)*

What is your life like now? (This is where you get to brag on God for a moment! It is important that you don't make the person you are sharing with feel like a loser by bragging about your accomplishments. Just share how God has changed your mind and heart towards life and other people.)

End your testimony with something like this: (Fill in the blank with your struggle)

"So, if you really knew me you would know that I once struggled with _____, but now Jesus has forgiven me and given me a new purpose and a new hope. The truth is we all struggle with something. It is because of our sin, which makes us separated from God not by his choice, but by our choice to sin rather than follow God. The Bible says, 'For ALL have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.' That means every one of us. Can I share with you what turned it around for me?"

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Now that you have finished writing your testimony out on paper, allow your mentor to edit it and give you positive criticism. Proverbs 4:7 says, "The beginning of wisdom is this: Acquire wisdom." What that means is in order to gain wisdom, we must seek for wisdom. To be taught, we must be teachable. After the edits have been made, spend time reading through it until you memorize it. Practice sharing it with a close friend. Then share it to yourself in the mirror at home twice per day; once when you get ready for the day each morning and once when you get ready for bed each night.

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