

Teaching Lesson 1 - Purpose For My Life

Break In: How To Know Christ

Supplies: 40 paper baseballs (see attached), sharpies, CD player and music CD, scotch tape, 4 bases for the floor that students can stand on, softball (or other ball to throw), Know/Grow/Serve/Share Christ Signs (see attached)

What's the Point?

1. The Learner Will (TLW) get to know at least three facts about the other students in the class.
2. TLW be able to name at least one way s/he can know, grow, serve, and share Jesus in his/her life.
3. TLW be able to state his/her purpose in life according to God: to do the good works that God gave him/her to do (Ephesians 2:10).

Key Vocabulary: *know* (to store information in your brain about something), *grow* (to change and develop), *serve* (to do something for someone else), *share* (to give what you have to others), *purpose* (something that has a point or a plan)

1st Day Note: Welcome the students to your classroom. Before you get started with your lesson, you might want to introduce yourself and talk about how excited you are to get to know all of them and spend the year with them. Also, bring pictures from your life to share with the students about yourself.

The Connecting Point

1. **Ask:** Who's been to a baseball game or knows how to play baseball? OK. So what's the point of the game? Do you just run around and around the bases? (take responses)
2. **Say:** No, the point is to score and win the game, right? Our Christian life is the same way. God doesn't want you to just run around and around the bases, He wants you to score in the game of life! God wants you to know that there is a point and purpose to your life. He didn't put you on planet earth, on your baseball diamond, to run in circles, get dizzy, fall over, and die!
3. **Say:** In the Bible it says: "God has made us what we are. In Christ Jesus, God made us to do *good works*, which God planned in advance for us to live our lives doing." (Ephesians 2:10).
4. **Ask:** So what's the point of our lives? (to do good works)

The Heart

1. **In Advance,** Set up four bases in the four corners of the room. Above the bases, tape the signs (Know Christ, Grow in Christ, Serve Christ, and Share Christ).
2. **Explain the following Game Rules:** As the music plays, you will travel around the bases in the room. It's like the game musical chairs. When the music stops, depending on what base you land on, you must say one way that you can Know Christ, Grow in Christ, Serve Christ, or Share Christ. For example, let's say that I land on Know Christ. I might say, "I can get to know Jesus by reading the Bible." Or if I land on Serve Christ, I might say, "I can serve Jesus by helping out around my house." Do you get the idea? (Show students what to do by walking around the bases, stopping at one, catching the baseball and giving a sample response.)
3. **Explain:** Each base needs to come up with only one answer to stay in the game. All the people at each base are on the same team. When the music stops, I will throw the ball to Know Christ, and that team must give one answer, then toss the ball back to me. Then I will throw the ball to Grow Christ, and that team must give one answer. We will go on until all of the bases have answered once. Then the music will start again.

4. **Say:** Once you have answered, you cannot answer again until everyone in the group has had a chance.
5. **Ask:** Do you have any questions?
6. **Assign one helper** to stand at each base and write down student responses on the paper baseballs. They should tape the baseballs on the wall next to the appropriate base.
7. **Say:** Let's begin.
8. **Do:** Play the music. Play until each child has had a chance to give a response, depending on time.

Closing

Pass out the student books and explain the weekly homework to be completed by them at home. Explain the star charts on Breakout Resource Disk and how they earn stars. Each student will receive one star per week for each of the following categories:

1. Lesson (completing the weekly homework)
2. Verse (memorizing a verse and reciting it the following week)
3. Bible (bringing a Bible to Breakout)
4. Attendance (showing up)

Pray

Game Option

Ice Breaker Game

This year in Breakout, you are going to learn so much about God and His Son Jesus and about why God made you. Today we are going to get to know each other a little better by playing an ice breaker.

We're going to go around the room and each of you will have the chance to tell us your name, grade, and finish one of the sentences on the board. Pay careful attention to each person's responses because I'm going to reward the best listeners at the end.

In Advance, write the following on the board:

1. The animal I am most like is the...because...
2. My favorite thing to do after school and on weekends is...
3. If I could be in any TV show, I would be in ... because...

After the students share, ask for volunteers who think they can remember what people shared. Randomly select questions and answers. Reward the students who can remember 100% of what their classmates said.

Know christ

Grow in Christ

serve christ

share

christ

