



STORY 

 TELLERS

CONNECT GUIDE



ASK FOR A STORY

CROSSINGS STUDENT CAMP CONNECT 2026

We are thankful that you chose to come to Crossings this summer! We know that Connect time is an important time for your group to spend together. With that in mind, we have created some Connect time options that you can use at your leisure with what best fits your group.

This is a time created to give you, as the leader, an opportunity to learn and grow your group and help the camp connection continue after you return home. We believe this time can be used in many ways.

Four ways we believe this time can grow your group:

1. Teach/refresh your group on how to spend time alone with God each day. Use the first part of Connect time for students to complete their TAWG and have your chaperones available to help answer questions.

Establishing a quiet time is sometimes difficult. This is a great opportunity to teach how important time alone with God is every day. Talking about how we learn at camp (when there are no distractions versus at home when life is busy) is always a good place to start. Many times at camp and retreats, our faith has a growth spurt. Everything is intentional and fun, but when we get home, we get back into a routine and forget that those times with God helped us.

Have students think about what it would be like if we were as intentional about spending time with God at home as we are here.

- What do you think would change?
- Would you grow more in your relationship with Jesus?
- Would you know more about God?
- How do you think you would react to difficult things if you were spending time with God every day?

Here are a few tips on how to help students establish a quiet time, see the importance, and follow through:

- A. Pray, Read, Write
- B. Study a Book of the Bible
- C. Teaching the "Why." Being connected to God helps us to get to know Him. Reading His Word helps us understand even more about Him.
- D. Memorize a verse and discover what it means.

2. Recap what you are learning at camp and let students talk and support one another. Use Connect time as a place to debrief Large and Small Group as a group. They may want their TAWG books to help them recall some of the main points. **SOME QUESTIONS TO HELP YOU CAN BE FOUND AT THE END OF THE DOCUMENT.**

- a. Day 1 (Opening Celebration): Storytellers
 - Scripture: 1 Corinthians 15: 3-4

- b. Day 2: Sharing the Gospel Story
 - Scripture: John 1:1-4, Romans 3:10-12, Romans 5:6:8-9, Acts 16:27-33)
- c. Day 3: Sharing a Bible Story
 - Scripture: Luke 19:1-10, John 20:24-29
- d. Day 4: Sharing Your Story
 - Scripture: Romans 10:14-15; 1 Peter 3:15-16

Some questions to ask:

What is one thing you learned today that you did not know?

How will you apply what you learned today when you get home?

3. Build relationships in your group. Team building activities are a great way to help students learn about one another and work together. This breaks down boundaries and distractions from home that prevent students from really having deep relationships with others. And let's be honest, they need one another and their leaders. We were designed to be in relationships: first, the vertical one with the Father, and second, all the horizontal ones that help us each day to be encouraged and loved.

Here are a few team building games/activities to try with your group:

Hand Signs

Students stand in a circle and create a unique, silent hand sign. The goal is to "pass" a sign around without getting caught by the person in the middle.

Line Up Challenge

Have students line up by birthday, height, alphabetical order, etc. WITHOUT talking. Time the students to make it even more challenging.

This or That Questions

Stand at the front of the room and call out this-or-that questions. Students pick by running to the indicated side of the room. This is great for students to learn more about each other and see things they have in common. Examples include:

Marvel or DC? Dogs or cats? Football or basketball? Beach or mountains?

4. Play. Another way you can use Connect time is for students to play. This can be card games, board games, or Minute-To-Win-It games, but mostly use the time to just have fun together. This is also a great way for your chaperones to interact with the students in a different way. Natural conversations will happen here strengthening relationships that will make impact.

Most importantly, we want this time to be used for your group to have what they need. There are no strict rules here. As the group leader, take some time to pray about the best way to use this time and go for it. We'd love to hear how your time was spent and how it benefited your group upon returning home!



DAY TWO

LARGE GROUP FOLLOW UP QUESTIONS

DAY 2: SHARING THE GOSPEL STORY

Scripture: John 1:1-4, Romans 3:10-12, Romans 5:6:8-9, Acts 16:27-33)

- What is something that stood out to you from Large Group? Anything interesting, powerful, funny, etc?
- Why do you think sharing the Gospel is so difficult for many Christians?
- Of the 4 phrases we discussed, which is easiest to communicate? Which is the most difficult?
- In your opinion, of the 4 phrases which is most important?
- What are some barriers in your life to sharing the Gospel boldly? How can we overcome those?
- When was the last time you had a conversation with a nonbelieving friend about spiritual matters?
- What are some questions you can ask someone to begin a Gospel-centered conversation?
- Think about the people in your circle. Who can you start to have spiritual conversations with?
- What's something you could say to "leave a rock in their shoe?"





DAY THREE

LARGE GROUP FOLLOW UP QUESTIONS

DAY 3: SHARING A BIBLE STORY

Scripture: Luke 19:1-10, John 20:24-29

Zaccheus and Jesus - Luke 19:1-10

Luke tells us the story of Zaccheus, a tax collector who cheated the people around him out of money. He was disliked by the people around him, but wanted to see Jesus when he came to town. Jesus spent time with Zaccheus, changing his life, heart, and his actions as a result.

- Why did people hate Zaccheus? Do you think it was justified?
- Do you think Zaccheus was rejected or accepted by the people around him?
Who do we see today who may face similar rejection?
- Why do you think Zaccheus was interested in Jesus? How do you think Zaccheus felt when Jesus called to him?
- What does Jesus' interaction with Zaccheus tell us about His heart for people?
- How did Zaccheus show that his heart was changed? What did his new faith cause him to do?
- How can we act like Jesus in this story? How can we look out for those left out?
- What can we do to help people feel accepted and loved by God?

Thomas - John 20:24-29

Thomas was one of Jesus' disciples who had some questions and doubts after Jesus was reported to have risen from the dead. When Jesus arrived, Thomas was able to see that Jesus was very much alive. Jesus did not reject Thomas for asking questions or chastise him for his doubts.

- What did Thomas state he needed to see to believe that Jesus had risen?
- Can doubt ever be helpful or beneficial? How can doubt be harmful?
- What doubts have you had about issues of faith?
- What do you think are the most common questions people have about faith?
How can we answer those objections?
- What does the Bible say about those who have not seen Jesus physically?



DAY FOUR

LARGE GROUP FOLLOW UP QUESTIONS

DAY 4: SHARING YOUR STORY

Scripture: Romans 10:14-15; 1 Peter 3:15-16

- What mattered most to you before following Christ? What did your life revolve around?
- When do you remember hearing the Gospel for the first time? What was your initial reaction?
- Who helped you understand the Gospel? What details do you remember about your salvation story?
- What mental barriers did you have to overcome? What emotional barriers did you have to overcome?
- Can you recall the specific moment or turning point when your attitude towards Jesus shifted?
- Why did you decide to follow Jesus?
- What has been one of the biggest changes in your life because of following Jesus?
- What attitudes have you changed because of following Jesus?
- What are you learning now? What are you reading about in the Bible?
- How important is it to be involved in a local church? What does your church involvement look like?
- How do you deal with sin? What things has the Holy Spirit helped you achieve victory over?
- What are some steps of obedience you have taken to follow Jesus? How important is baptism for new Christians? Have you been baptized?
- What's your next spiritual step?