

## **Teens Cycle Two-Shift One**

### **Teens Giving to Teens**

#### **Primary Objective**

The objective will be to reach teens by creating an environment where teens may “connect” with other teens in the community to draw them to spend time with teens who are Christ followers.

#### **How This Can Help You Reach Teens**

This initiative will help you to create an environment for teens where they can share life and share the Gospel with their peers.

#### **Suggested Strategy**

The Church will host a sports activity such as - 3 v 3 basketball, 7 v 7 soccer, flag football, etc. If possible, the event should be held at a neutral site in the community. The day should be filled with food, drink, sports, and games - activities that would interest students from the area. The day should end with a meal and possibly some music. This is a community event where students from the local high school(s) and middle school(s) should be invited. Teams should register to participate and the host church(s) needs to shoulder as much of the financial burden as they can. It is most important that the teens from the host church participate in some way, by either working or gathering a team with others who are not part of the church for participation. This does not have to be a big event if you are a smaller congregation. Two teams or more can get the job done.

#### **Extra Mile Suggestions**

- Churches with more resources can end the evening with a band and possibly other games and activities like a photo booth, obstacle course, or rock climbing (which can usually be rented from local providers). Many churches might want to end the day with a drawing of sorts. The bigger the prizes the better. The large prize could ensure that registration cards are filled out.

#### **Key Steps for Preparation**

- Preparation is key! To prepare, the church must consider the school calendar and choose a date when the most students would be able to participate from

the community. This date must be free from as much calendar conflict as possible. A location must be secured early in the process. Many local parks & recreations are good options and these places are “neutral” to other teens. Once the date and location have been secured, it will be important that the teens of the church do much, if not most, of the work. Teens are attracted to other teen events far more than adults planning for teens. The teens of your church need to be sold out to giving of themselves for the benefit of other teens, in many cases their friends, in your community. Teens have different insights into what might make the event more attractive to others. The ideas that teens have for promotion will be far greater than many ideas adults might have for the event. Creating some sort of Lead Team might be good for an event like this to give the teens of your church ownership of the event. Teens owning the event will be crucial to the success of the event.

- List of Items for Preparation
  - Date
  - Location
  - Lead team (parents & students)
  - Promotion
  - Food
  - Drinks
  - Prizes & giveaway
  - Paper products
  - Tents/shelter, if pavilion is not provided
  - Clean-up crew (VERY important)
  
- Alternatives & Additional Ideas
  - Hosting an event in a gym is sometimes more manageable
  - Day trip activity that other teens in the community would be invited to
  - Movie night at the church - utilize screens, sound system, etc.
  - A day at the lake
  
- Apply the “law of large numbers” the week leading up to the initiative. Contact every student connected to your church and invite them to join you in a concerted effort to do something that will have a profound impact on their peers.

## **Looking Ahead**

Preview: (9) *Student Leadership Focus & Parent Focus*

Plan: (8) *Student Outreach Event (DNow Option)*