

Session 1: BEST PRACTICE PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Main idea: We are God's project. By His example, God teaches us about project management.

Bible Passages: Ephesians 2:1-10, John 15:1-5

Needed: Bibles, a gardener as a guest, visit to their garden or pictures, picture of a fruitless tree

EXPERIENCE

Invite a gardener to the group today. Either take the teens to the gardener's garden, or ask them to bring photos or a video of their garden and share about it. The leader could interview the gardener. Ask these questions:

- What do you do to keep the garden at its best?
- What tools do you use?
- What are the challenges that can hinder your garden growing well?
- What are the rewards?

Let the teens ask any questions of the Gardener.

REFLECT

Lead a discussion with the whole group:

- What did you learn from the Gardener about their gardening project?
- Make a list of other people in your community who work on projects.
- What do all these people have in common? (*passion for their project, work hard, spend time on it, love to tell others about it, etc*)

LINK: The Gardener and the other people we talked about are all project managers, managing their projects. Some projects can be short-term; some can be long-term. As we read from the Bible now, we will learn about God's long-term project, and it involves us!

BIBLE DISCOVERY

Read Ephesians 2:1-10 together:

- What is God's long-term project? (*us!*)
- Why are we God's project? (*He loves us (v4), He wants us to have life and a place in heaven (v6), to show his true kindness through Jesus' death (v7), so we can do good things and live His way (v10)*)
- What do you think about being God's project?
- God is the ultimate project manager. What can we learn about project management from God? (*He had a well thought-out plan, He was committed for the long term, He doesn't give up, He found solutions to problems, He is passionate about His project, He works hard on His project, He is excited by good results, etc*)

Read John 15:1-5 together:

Show a picture (or visit) a fruit tree that has green leaves but no fruit. Reflect on what is disappointing about this tree.

Ask: what would a fruitless project look like?

- What do you learn about project management from this passage? (*it isn't always easy, sometimes unfruitful work needs to stop because it is holding back the whole project*)
- What do you learn about God's treatment of you (as His project) from this passage? (*there could be some unfruitful areas of my life that God needs to cut away. This can hurt, but it will be better for my growth in the long run*)
- What are the fruits God is looking for? Look up Galatians 5:22-23 (*love, joy, peace, patience, kindness goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control*)

CHALLENGE

Individually: Reflect on an area of your life that you are spending a lot of time on, but is unfruitful. Give it to God. Commit to spending more time in activities that are bearing fruit.

Prayer: Pray in pairs or threes for yourselves as God's project. Pray that you will bear more fruit this week, living as God has always wanted you to live.

Home Project: Plant maize, tomato or some other edible plant, look after it and watch it grow. Take a photo of its growth every few days to keep a record to show at your hub over the next few weeks.

Session 2: PARTNERSHIP

Main idea: We can learn about the impact of strong partnerships through the examples of Paul and Jesus.

Bible Passages: Philippians 1:3-7, John 17:20-23 (NIV)

Needed: heavy chair, long rope and short rope, Bibles

EXPERIENCE

1. Tie the short rope to the heavy chair and ask one of the teens to pull the chair while the other teens watch [Team A].
2. Tie the long rope to the heavy chair and ask five teens to pull the chair while the rest of the teens watch [Team B].

REFLECT

Lead a discussion with the whole group:

- What was your experience in this activity?
- What differentiated the first activity from the second?
- Why was it easier and faster for team B than the single person (team A) to pull the chair?

LINK: Partnering with others to complete a project or task has more power. The process of partnering is just as important as the end result. As we read the Bible together we will discover what is the most important project and partnership we can be involved in.

BIBLE DISCOVERY

Read Philippians 1:3-7 together:

- What does this passage say about partnership? (*pray for each other, be joyful, have confidence, care for partners, share God's grace (no-one is perfect)*)
- According to this passage, what is the most important project we can partner with others to do? (*the Gospel*)
- What do you learn about Paul from this passage?

Read John 17:20-23 together:

- What are the good aspects of a strong partnership that Jesus mentions here? (*pray for each other, have a close bond (with each other), have complete unity as a witness to God's love*)
- Choose a verse from either passage that speaks most to you. Share it with the others, explaining why you chose this verse.

CHALLENGE

Partnership Project

Divide your whole group into smaller teams of about 3-4. Each team forms a partnership with the others in their team to complete a project for next week. The project is for each group to aim to bring 5 new young people to the hub next week. Offer an incentive of a prize for any groups who complete project. Give the teams a few minutes now to work out their strategy for this project. Remind them of Paul's and Jesus' strategies for partnership as discussed earlier in the Bible Discovery.

Prayer: Pray in project teams for your projects. Pray for the people you want to invite. Pray for teamwork, unity, joy and working as one.

Home Challenge: The teams talk to and encourage each other as they work on their project together throughout the week.

Session 3: NETWORKING

Main Idea: The skills of networking to share our faith can be learnt from Jesus.

Bible Passage: John 1:35-51

Needed: paper and pencils, Bibles

EXPERIENCE

Give paper and pencil to all young people in your hub and ask them to write their name and favourite food. Now group them according to their favourite food, and give time for them to share the excitement of their choice, and to talk about the advantages and disadvantages of their favourite food.

REFLECT

Lead a discussion with the whole group:

- What was your experience in this activity?
- Describe the feeling of finding someone who is passionate about the same thing as you.

LINK: This activity is a small example of the effectiveness of networking. When we find others who are passionate about our project, this provides a great energy and momentum for the project. Networking works best when there are mutual benefits for all in the network.

BIBLE DISCOVERY

Read John 1:35-51 together:

1. What are the men doing in this passage? (*networking around a common interest – curiosity about Jesus*)
2. Who were the men sharing their faith experience with? (*friends, associates and neighbors*)
3. What did you learn about the process of networking from this passage? (*be inviting and friendly, not pushy, be truthful, whet their appetite to hear more, be natural, curious, invite people you know*)
4. What can you say about Jesus according to the passage? (*He knows everyone and everything. Called Lamb of God, Messiah, Christ, Rabbi, Son of God and King of Israel*)
5. Pick one of the verses that speaks best to you about how networking is good in business and share with others in the hub. Give a reason for your choice.

CHALLENGE

NETWORKING PROJECT

Here are two choices:

1. Give the opportunity to young people in your hub to strategize on how to engage their difficult friends with the Gospel. This gives room for exchange of ideas and prayer requests for their unbelieving friends. You can also share strategies that have worked for you with difficult friends.
2. If any teens have been working on their own project, they can think about how they could use the skills of networking to improve their business. Encourage them to tell a friend or leader of their ideas.

Prayer: while hands are joined (or arms around shoulders), young people pray for confidence to share their faith with their friends and conviction through the work of the Holy Spirit.

Home Challenge:

Encourage every person to use the strategies talked about today to engage an unbelieving friend with the Gospel. Challenge each teen to bring a friend to hub next week.

SESSION 4: GOOD WORKS (COMMUNITY SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY)

Main idea: We do good works for others to honor God's name.

Bible Passage: Matthew 5:14-16

Further Reading: Deuteronomy 15:6-11

Needed: Trash cans, gloves, soap and water, Bibles

EXPERIENCE

The teacher will display (through a self-made video) dirty and clean residences (inside and out). Ask kids who has the responsibility for cleaning their environment. After their response the leader will take the kids out for a cleaning exercise in a dirty community. The hub is to look for a place around them which is not clean and the leader will facilitate the process.

REFLECT

Each teen has the opportunity to share about their experiences cleaning up a dirty part of the community:

- How did you feel taking care of the mess or waste you did not generate? *Jesus paid for sins he never did!*
- Was there any appreciation from onlookers while you were working? *Jesus on the cross!*
- How would you feel if someone else did this in your neighbourhood without reward?
- How would you use this approach to maximize opportunity for discipleship in your community?

BIBLE DISCOVERY

Read Matthew 5:14-16 together:

1. What is this passage about? *(setting a good example to those around us and living God's way)*
2. According to this passage who are the people to see your good works? *(family, friends, associates and neighbors)*
3. What did you learn about light in the passage? *(we are light and when we let it shine people will see our good works)*
4. What can you say about glory according to the passage? *(we don't receive the glory for our good works, they point people to God and glorify Him)*
5. Pick one of the verses that speaks best to you and share with others in the hub. Give a reason for your choice.

CHALLENGE

GOOD WORKS PROJECT

Group teens in your hub who attend the same school or live in the same neighbourhood to do a CSR activity in their community. Use the opportunity to engage kids in the neighbourhood and introduce them to Christ and the discipleship hub. Give the groups some time now to plan what they will do in their neighbourhoods.

Prayer: In their neighbourhood groups, teens pray for courage and strength to be the light in their immediate environ.

Home Challenge: The teens are challenged to do a CSR activity this week in their neighbourhood or school.

SESSION 5: THE IMPORTANCE OF SKILLS

Main idea: Christians in business need to use the Bible as their training guide.

Bible Passage: 1 Corinthians 9:22-27

Further Reading: Matthew 11:27-30

Needed: 2 leaders who have a skill to teach, Bibles

EXPERIENCE

Prepare two leaders to teach a skill they are good at. Make sure they have all the equipment they need. Make sure the skill can be learnt quickly, like making a paper aeroplane, weaving a bag from palm fronds or ??

Divide the group into two teams. Half go with each leader and learn the skill that leader has prepared. Give them enough time to practice the skill. Then swap the groups. The teens are now with the other leader and are told to try to do the skill without any teaching. Keep this activity short, because safety could be compromised if they haven't been taught how to use equipment properly.

REFLECT

Give the teens the opportunity to share about their experiences in each of the groups:

- Which activity did you like best? Why?
- What was easy? What was hard?
- What other emotions or thoughts did you have?

LINK: Someone will be more satisfied, confident and safe to perform a task if they are given proper training beforehand, and also given an opportunity for supervised practice and practical feedback. We also need training in the best way to live. The following Bible discovery explains more about this.

BIBLE DISCOVERY

Read 2 Timothy 3:14-17 together:

1. What is this passage about? (*learning how to live God's way from the Scriptures [Bible]*)
2. What can we learn from the Holy Scriptures? (*what we believe, wisdom, faith in Christ, salvation, correcting how we live, to do good deeds*)
3. How can the Bible correct how we live? **Read Hebrews 4:12-13** (*discovers the desires and thoughts of our hearts and convicts us deeply*)
4. Pick one of the verses that speaks best to you and share with others in the hub. Give a reason for your choice.
5. How can Jesus' teaching from the Bible help you in business with a project you are managing?

CHALLENGE

TRAINING PROJECT

As a whole group brainstorm ideas for a series of training sessions based on Bible teaching that will help people who want to work in business. Each person has a pad of sticky notes and a pen. Set a time limit (3 minutes). Teens write new ideas on each sticky note of topics for training sessions from the Bible, eg honesty

Prayer: One teen prays for this training project.

Home Challenge: Each teen chooses a topic from the ones written on sticky notes. Their home challenge this week is to write a devotion on this topic that will help Christians in business. They must try to find a Bible passage to guide the devotion. These are handed in next week to the leader who checks them and uses the best ones to make a training booklet for Christian project managers.

SESSION 6: THE IMPORTANCE OF PLANNING

Main idea: Being well prepared and making plans is important in project management, and is also important to God.

Bible Passage: Matthew 25:1-13

Needed: Bibles, prepared revision sheet (included)

EXPERIENCE

Have an activity planned that the teens don't know about and have not prepared for. This could be cleaning up the meeting area, cleaning the toilets, cleaning the kitchen, sweeping, weeding the garden outside, doing some maintenance on the building, like painting, sanding, etc. If teens are really annoyed at getting their good clothes ruined, don't continue with the activity for very long. The point has been made.

REFLECT

Give the teens the opportunity to share about their experience:

- What did you enjoy about this activity?
- What was frustrating or annoying?
- What could have happened instead? (*leaders told them ahead of time so they could come dressed in correct clothes and bring the right equipment*)

LINK: Being prepared with good planning is important before starting any project. The Bible discovery today shows us how important it is to be well prepared for the most important aspect of our lives – eternity with God.

BIBLE DISCOVERY

Story Preparation - drama

Prepare the teens for the story by giving some historical background to the Hebrew culture of the time. As you give the cultural background, invite the teens to help you act out the story of the lead up to the wedding ceremony. You will need 10 bridesmaids and one bridegroom.

The Bride is waiting at the Bridegroom's parents' house, where the ceremony will take place (can't see her). The Bridesmaids are waiting out the front with lamps to light his way, but the Bridegroom is delayed and no-one knows how long he will be. 5 of the Bridesmaids are not well prepared and are caught out. They run out of oil and have to leave to get more. While they are gone the bridegroom arrives. The other 5 are well prepared with extra oil, so they go into the ceremony with the Bridegroom. The others who left are locked out.

Read Matthew 25:1-13 together:

1. What is this passage about? (*it is important to always be prepared for the coming of Jesus, which could be anytime*)
2. How can we be prepared for the coming of Jesus? (*live God's way always*)
3. It seems unrealistic to always be good. No-one can do that. So what else can we do? (*read the Bible and allow it to convict us, then confess our sins*)
4. How can Jesus' teaching from this parable give us sound advice for project management?

CHALLENGE

PREPARE FOR QUIZ NEXT WEEK

Tell the group that next week is the last week of the Project management series in the Entrepreneur Hub. Therefore to help them retain everything they have learnt there will be a quiz. Recommend that they do some preparation for the quiz, by revising what they have learnt. Provide a sheet to help them revise with the topics and Bible references listed for each week and space for them to write their own notes.

Prayer: One teen volunteers to pray for the group as they do their revision to prepare for the Quiz next week..

Home Challenge: Use the sheet provided to do some revision for the Quiz next week.

Project Management Revision Sheet

For use with session 6

Week	Topic	Bible Passages
1	<p>Best practice Project Management</p> <p><i>- We are God's project. By His example God teaches us about project management.</i></p>	Ephesians 2:1-10, John 15:1-5
2	<p>Partnership</p> <p><i>- We can learn about the impact of strong partnerships through the examples of Paul and Jesus.</i></p>	Philippians 1:3-7, John 17:20-23
3	<p>Networking</p> <p><i>- The skills of networking to share our faith can be learnt from Jesus.</i></p>	John 1:35-51
4	<p>Community Social Responsibility</p> <p><i>- We do good works for others to honor God's name.</i></p>	Matthew 5:14-16, Deuteronomy 15:6-11
5	<p>Learning Skills</p> <p><i>- Christians in business need to use the Bible as their training guide.</i></p>	1 Corinthians 9:22-27, Matthew 11:27-30
6	<p>Planning</p> <p><i>- Being well prepared and making plans is important in project management, and is also important to God.</i></p>	Matthew 25:1-13
7	<p>Employment</p> <p><i>- it's important to act in a godly way whether you are an employer or an employee.</i></p>	Matthew 20:1-16

SESSION 7: EMPLOYMENT

Main idea: Teens will learn the difference in the roles between an employer and employee and how to be godly in either role.

Bible Passage: Matthew 20:1-16

Needed: Bibles

EXPERIENCE

Divide your teens into two groups. Group A are the employers and is half the size of Group B who are employees. Assign two employees to an employer. Each group of three practices a short scenario that could show some of these things: recruitment process, employment and firing. After a few minutes of a quick practice, ask some of the groups to perform their drama for the others.

REFLECT

Give the teens the opportunity to share about their experience:

- What did you enjoy about this activity?
- What was frustrating or annoying?
- What role would you like to have?

LINK: There is a line of authority in the workforce. Anyone in authority over you deserves your respect, despite how they treat you. Learn from the mistakes of poor employers and vow to be a good employer when you get to that stage in your life. The Bible discovery will give you some clues.

BIBLE DISCOVERY

Read Matthew 20:1-16 together.

Act out the story

Now choose teens to take on roles and act out the story as you read the Bible again. You will need an employer and everyone else can be the employees (the people hired).

Discussion:

1. What is this passage about? (*God is like the employer and treats all of us equally, without discrimination*)
2. Explain God's system of justice in the workplace.
3. Talk about any employers you know of who treat their workers fairly, without discrimination.
4. What other ways of running a business have you seen? Which is the most common way?
5. If you were an employer how would you treat your staff in a way that honoured God?
6. How can you as an employee treat your boss and other staff members in a way that honors God?

CHALLENGE

God's Employee

Think of God as your employer. What job has He hired you to do? How is He 'paying' you (rewarding you for the work done)? How does your employer treat you? How do you treat your employer? How do you treat your fellow employees?

Reflection in pairs: How different is this to thinking of God as our King or Lord, whom we serve? What are the differences and similarities?

Prayer: Everyone join in a circle, and go round the circle, praying for the person on your left.

Home Challenge: This week think about humility and respect as you relate to people put in authority over you – your parents, your school teachers and Principal, your employer (if you have a job) your coach, and especially God. How differently will you be treating them?