

What now?

After a big event or youth camp it always seems like the students are running on this “Spiritual High”. But, how do we make that last? Living a life for Christ may not always be easy because it is about sacrifice. If we can teach students how to live for God and put Him and others above themselves that's where true life change can happen.

TENSION

What does God want from me now?

Scripture

Romans 12:1-2

12 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. **2** Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Illustration

-Talk about training for a sport or a job or a big race (something that took sacrifice, and discipline.)

MAIN POINT: God doesn't just want your heart, He wants your life!

-There are a few things we can learn from this scripture...

Point 1: Following Jesus takes sacrifice

-Following Jesus is not always easy. It takes sacrifice. This verse says “do not conform to the pattern of this world.” That can be hard to do. It can be hard to say no to TV, or video games, or social media to read your bible. But, just like sacrifice pays off when training for something, so does choosing to put your relationship with Christ over everything else.

Key: Put Jesus First

I know this may sound simple, but it can be very difficult to put Christ first in a world full of distractions. There are a million other things in our lives that can distract us from Jesus. All the devil wants to do is to distract you from your purpose and the calling God has for your life. In order to combat that, we must put Christ first!

Point 2: Following Jesus takes discipline

-illustration: Talk about different disciplines in life (waking up early, going to the gym, eating healthy, reading, studying)

Key: Being disciplined can be very difficult, but it all starts by making a choice to better yourself each and every day.

How many of you think you would do very well on a test you didn't study for? Ya probably not. In life there will be a lot of tests and trials that come and knowing God's word will help you get through those tough times in life.

Challenge: Do these things this week: Listen to worship music in the car or on the bus on the way to school and read the Bible and pray when you wake up every morning or before you go to bed every night.

Point 3: Following Jesus brings transformation

-When we put Christ first, we are transformed! If you work out every day, won't your body hopefully start to transform? In the same way, if we choose to read our bible, pray and worship God every day He will transform us from the inside out.

Key: When you live a transformed life you can discipline others.

-Our number 1 responsibility as Christ followers is to make disciples.

Matthew 28:16-20 (NIV) says...

The Great Commission

16 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. **17** When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. **18** Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. **19** Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of

the Holy Spirit, **20** and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

-When we live a transformed life, our friends will see that. They will see that you are acting differently and they will even ask why.

As Christ followers it is our responsibility to discipline others. It's one thing to invite your friends to youth on Sunday Nights, but it's a whole other thing to meet up with a group of friends to read and discuss scripture.

Illustration: Talk about S.O.A.P and maybe even walk through an example.

-Scripture, Observation, Application, Prayer.

Response

- Salvation and rededication.

Altars

- Draw near in Worship
- S.O.A.P station (have a station with pre-made bible verse on them where kids can go through a S.O.A.P during altar time.