

STUDENT LEADER GUIDE



FRIENDS

THE CONVERSATION: HELP WEEK

WELCOME & OPEN PRAYER

[Host] Hey everyone, welcome to First Priority! We're so glad you're here today. [Insert name] is going to talk about how we can share Jesus with our friends. But before we dive in, let's take a second to pray and ask God to be part of this time together. Let's pray!

Sample prayer: God, thank You for bringing us here today. We know You've got a purpose for this time, and we don't want to miss it. Help us open our hearts and really listen. Give us the courage to share Your love with the people around us. Be with [insert name] as they speak today. In Jesus' name, amen.

THE CONVERSATION

[Speaker] "How do I even start talking about Jesus with my friends?" Ever asked yourself that and then totally overthought it? Same here. I know we want to bring up God with someone, but then we freeze and don't know what to say. We don't want to sound weird, or pushy, or like we have it all figured out because we don't.

If you've ever felt that, you're not alone. So many of us want to share Jesus, but we psych ourselves out. We feel like we're not smart enough, not bold enough, or we have to say the perfect thing.

But here's the truth in Luke chapter 12 verse 12, *"for the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say."* We don't need to be a Bible genius. We don't have to know all the answers. We just need to be willing. Willing to say yes when God nudges us with, "Pray for them" or "Go sit with that person" or "Share what I've done in your life."

If we say yes to those moments, God does the rest. He's the one who opens hearts. He's the one who saves people. We're just part of the story and what we share is never wasted. Even if our friends don't respond right away or at all, we've

planted something in them, and God can grow it at just the right time.

Sometimes, He'll even let us be the one who leads them to Him or we're just one step in their journey. Both matter and both are powerful. Here's something else we need to know. We are exactly who our friend needs. Not someone more spiritual. Not someone older. US!

Romans chapter 8 verse 24 says, *"For in this hope we were saved."* And now we get to pass that hope on to someone else. So, today we're making a small move that could open a big door — salvation bracelets.

Think friendship bracelet meets God's story. It's a simple, creative way to start a conversation that might change someone's life. We were made for this. Let's do this together.

CONVERSATION STARTER – SALVATION BRACELET

[Speaker] I know for some of us it is not easy to start talking about Jesus with our friends, but how will they know unless someone tells them? It is time for us to be that "someone." (Have student leaders pass out the Salvation Bracelets and cards.) You can start the conversation by saying, "Can I share some good news with you?" Then point to your bracelet and go through what each color means. Let's read from the card so that we can get comfortable with sharing our faith.

Yellow reminds me of Heaven and where I will spend forever one day. God loves you so much and wants you to be in Heaven too. But God can't allow sin into Heaven. The **black** reminds me of the sin we have done that separates us from God. So, something had to happen. The **red** reminds me of the blood that Jesus shed on the cross for you and me. He took the punishment we deserved by dying on the cross for our sins and rose to life three days later. Because of this,

we can have a relationship with God. The **white** reminds me that when we choose to trust and follow Jesus, He forgives our sins and gives us a clean slate. We now have a relationship with God and the promise of Heaven. That's the Good News! The **blue** reminds me of the water of baptism, which is an important step in my faith journey. And the **green** reminds me that we need to grow in our relationship with Jesus by reading the Bible, going to church, and sharing our faith with others.

After sharing what the colors mean, you can ask, "Now that you know what each color represents and have heard what God did on your behalf, would you like to begin a relationship with Jesus?"

What a simple way to share our faith with a bracelet. Which color means the most to you and why? (Share yours and allow students to respond. This helps make it personal when you share.) Let's practice sharing with each other. Team up with one or two people. If you practice it here, you will share it out there. Ready, set, go!

(Have the student host come back up and give the CHALLENGE and PRAY.)

CHALLENGE & PRAY

[Host] Our challenge for this week is to boldly share our Salvation Bracelet with a friend that needs to hear the Good News. Look for an opportunity to ask, "Can I share something really important with you?" and walk them through what each color represents. We might be the one God uses to change their life forever. Let's pray!

Sample prayer: God, thank You for trusting us with the Gospel message. Help us not to be afraid, but to step out in faith when You give us the chance to share. Remind us that we don't need to have all the answers; we just need to point people to You. Use us this week to make an eternal difference in the lives of our friends. In Jesus' name, amen.

GAME TIME – Optional

[Host & Mentor] (See the Game Time tab for options.)