

GOAL OF TONIGHT

Help students see how God's story intersects with their story and why that matters in their day-to-day life.

WELCOME & ICE BREAKER

Happy New Year! It's great to be back together. Let's have a little fun to kick off the new year and see how high we can stack some Starbursts. (Leaders - you can have them pair up, or form groups of 3 - or they can work on it all together. Whatever you think is best!)

BIBLE VERSES

Luke 24:5-12

QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS THE BIBLE VERSES

For Students: To kick off the New Year we are going to spend 2 weeks tackling the topic of "The Big God Questions." To set up these discussions, we have to agree to be kind and respectful to one another and be willing to admit that we don't already know everything :-)

For Leaders: We have two goals for these two weeks: 1)Use the Bullseye for healthy conversation, 2. Go to the Bible for answers to Big Questions. We'll tackle the first goal tonight!

OK. Let's dive in and discuss one Big God Question tonight.

Read together: Luke 24:5-12

- 1. What "Big God Question" might arise out of this passage from Luke?
- 2. Why is this question so important to us?
- 3. Why might someone argue that Jesus didn't rise from the dead?
- 3. What would it take for someone today (you or one of your friends) to believe that Jesus rose from the dead?

Leaders- at this point, draw a bullseye for your students. 3 circles. The center circle says "Die For", the next ring outside of that says, "Defend" and the outer ring says, "Discuss." Explain that our beliefs fall into one of these 3 categories. Things we believe that we would die for, things we are willing to defend and things we want to discuss. Then ask,

6. What category would you place the Big God Question about Jesus' resurrection?7. How might that change the way you discuss it with others as you go throughout middle school and high school?

LEADER INSIGHT

Before this small group, check out the document we've attached on EBC's Core Beliefs and how we handle the "Big God Questions." This will help you lead through this discussion. Remember, our goal for tonight is to lead them toward the bullseye for healthy conversation!

APPLICATION SUGGESTIONS

Have students create a list of other "Big God Questions" they have and place them into the bullseye -either the "die for," "defend" or "discuss" category. This will help set us up for next week's discussion.