



PREPARE WEEK

Month 1: KNOW GOD

“Father, help us reach **EVERY LAST ONE** on our campus with Your HOPE!”

WELCOME

LEADER TIP: Arriving early to pray over the room, playing worship live or on a bluetooth speaker, and greeting attendees as they enter, creates an environment that welcomes God's presence and people well.

Welcome: _____ (Leader)

SAY: Welcome to First Priority! It's great to see you here today! So far this month we have learned that our purpose is to know God, and we can overcome any obstacles that would keep us from knowing Him. This week is the PREPARE Week of our HOPE strategy. Each PREPARE week we will talk about how God is preparing us to share about Jesus. Today, our PREPARE GOAL is for us to answer the question, “Who in the Bible knew God?”

Prayer: _____ (Leader)

LEADER TIP: Feel free to have a student leader pray in their own words or use the prayer below.

SAY: Let's pray. *“God, thank You for this time we can spend together in Your presence. We ask that You would prepare us to share the hope of Jesus with others and to live out the purpose You have for our lives. We love You! In Jesus' Name, amen.”*

WORSHIP (OPTIONAL)

Worship Transition Talk: _____ (Leader)

SAY: Worship is a way that we can prepare our hearts and minds to focus on our First Priority—Jesus! Psalm 27:4 says, *“One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek Him in His temple.”* Let's seek Him together!

Worship: _____ (Leader)

Worship song(s) length: _____

LEADER TIP: Worship can be led live or by a lyric video. Test all technology WELL BEFORE club begins. Because students come from diverse worship backgrounds, provide lyrics (in slides, handouts, or a QR code) so everyone can participate. Song suggestions do not imply FP's endorsement of every artist or song they perform.

Song Suggestion:

TOPIC:	SONG:	ARTIST:
Knowing God Preparing Our Hearts	The More I Seek You Make Room	Kari Jobe Community Music

Message Transition Prayer: _____ (Leader)

LEADER TIP: Worship is a powerful time to invite God's presence. To carefully transition into the message, have a student leader pray in their own words or use the prayer below.

SAY: *“God, Your presence is our First Priority. Just like Psalm 27:4 says, we want to seek You and dwell in Your presence. Would You prepare every heart in this room right now to receive Your Word? May our hearts and minds be focused on You. You are all that matters. In Jesus' Name, amen.”*

MESSAGE

Scripture: _____ (Leader)

SAY: Today's verse is from James 2:23, which says, *“And so it happened just as the Scriptures say: ‘Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith.’ He was even called the friend of God.”*

Message: _____ (Leader)

LEADER TIP: One or more leaders may present the message. If you'd like to write this message in your own words, use the CLUB PLAN TEMPLATE in the FP AL app and the main points below as a guide.

SAY: How can we prepare to share about Jesus? A great way for us to prepare to share about Jesus is by getting to know Him more! So how can we get to know Him more? We can get to know Him more by reading and learning His Word, the Bible. During each PREPARE week, we will learn about people in the Bible who walked in the purpose that God created for their lives. God can use their stories in His Word to speak to us and show us His purpose for our lives. Now, let's talk about someone in the Bible who knew God.

1. Abraham was a friend of God.

Our verse today from James 2:23 mentions a man named Abraham. In the Book of Genesis (the first book of the Bible), we can read about Abraham's life. There are so many stories about his life that show God's faithfulness. Abraham's life was not easy. He faced many challenges and hard times. Yet, the Bible calls him a “friend of God.” Think about how incredible it is to be called a friend of God. It is amazing that the Creator of the world would call someone His friend. How wonderful would it be to have the reputation of being God's friend? A friend is someone you trust and know very well. In order for Abraham to be called God's friend, he had to know God.

2. Abraham obeyed God, even when it was difficult.

Abraham and his wife, Sarah, waited a very long time to have a baby. Genesis chapter 18 tells the story of how God promised to give them a son, even though they were very old in age. In Genesis 21, God's promise was fulfilled and their son, Isaac, was born. Genesis 22 tells us a story of a time when Abraham obeyed God no matter what it was going to cost him. In this story, God tells Abraham to take his only son, Isaac, and sacrifice him. Isaac wasn't just anyone. Isaac was God's promise to Abraham.

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MESSAGE (continued)

In Genesis 22:3, God tells Abraham, *“Take your son, your only son—yes, Isaac, whom you love so much—and go to the land of Moriah. Go and sacrifice him as a burnt offering on one of the mountains, which I will show you.”* Abraham obeyed God, even when his obedience seemed like it was going to cost him something that was so precious to him.

Later in the story, we see that God was so pleased with Abraham’s willingness to obey Him that He sent the angel of the Lord to stop Abraham from sacrificing his son. Genesis 22:12 says, *“Don’t lay a hand on the boy!” the angel said. ‘Do not hurt him in any way, for now I know that you truly fear God. You have not withheld from me even your son, your only son.’*” Abraham obeyed God because of the relationship that he had with God. Abraham trusted God. God showed His faithfulness to Abraham and kept His promise.

3. Do we know and trust God?

Can we say that we trust God like Abraham did? Do we know God so much that we can be called His friends? Abraham obeyed God even when it was difficult. Can we obey what God tells us to do no matter how hard it may seem?

In John 15:14, Jesus says, *“You are my friends if you do what I command.”* What does Jesus command us to do? Mark 16:15 tells us His command. It says, *“And then he told them, ‘Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone.’”* Can we say that we are a friend of God? Do we trust Jesus enough that we can do what He has commanded us to do?

How can you know and trust someone? You spend time with them. You get to know their heart. Think about how you get to know your friends. You talk to them and spend time with them. God wants us to know Him more. Let’s get to know God more by spending time in His Word, praying, and obeying what He tells us to do. Let’s trust God, and share the Good News of His love with someone in our school today.

LET’S TALK ABOUT IT (OPTIONAL)

LEADER TIP: If you have time available, discuss these questions in a small group or large group setting. For small groups, select a leader for each group.

Group Questions: _____ (Leader)

IMPORTANT: If discussion or a student’s personal question(s) drift toward topics too lengthy or difficult for the time allotted, please encourage them to ask the adult leaders in the room after the meeting or refer them to their parents or pastors after school.
(Example: “That’s a great question. Let’s ask _____ after the club today or _____ after school.”)

GROUP LEADER(S) SAY:

1. Why is it so important for us to know God and obey Him?
2. What are some other examples from the Bible of people who knew God?
3. Has there ever been a time when you obeyed God even when it was difficult? What was that like?

SOCIAL MEDIA (OPTIONAL)

IMPORTANT: If your club doesn’t have a social media account, check with your Faculty Sponsor for approval. **LEADER TIP:** If your club has a social media account, you can create content to share this week’s verse, club meeting recaps, upcoming meetings, or events. Encourage your classmates to follow the account. Check out @firstpriorityal on Instagram for inspiration.

CLOSING

LEADER TIP: INVITE CARDS can be ordered from the FP AL Office. The printable file can be found in CLUB RESOURCES on the FP AL app.

Announcements: _____ (Leader)

SAY: “During our club time next week, we will be sharing the good news about Jesus! Take an invite card with you to give to someone who needs to hear and respond to the gospel. We will be giving an invitation for anyone to receive Jesus! Let’s close in prayer.”

Closing Prayer: _____ (Leader)

LEADER TIP: Ask God to help all of us know Him and His heart for us.

LEADERS’ RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Dismiss attendees to class based upon Faculty Sponsor’s direction.
2. Clean your club meeting space, removing any trash.
3. Reset all items in your club meeting space to their original positions.