House Party (Inviting) | 1-15-25

## LARGE GROUP GAME: The Great Pickle (Rundown)

We'll head to the gym for this baseball-themed game (since we watched *The Sandlot* this past Sunday). The goal is to avoid getting tagged and be the last person standing. The winner gets a jar of pickles.

Our number one goal for tonight is for students to identify who they are inviting to House Party.

### **SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (45 minutes)**

#### The Sandlot

On Sunday, we had an At the Movies special from The Sandlot. Have a leader or student recap what the movie was about.

- 1. What character from Sandlot would you identify most with? (Benny, Smalls, etc)
- 2. Share about a time someone invited you, like Benny did for Smalls.
- 3. Share about a time <u>you</u> invited someone.
- 4. How does it make you feel when you're left out or not invited? Was there a time that this happened to you? When?

## **House Party**

As a group, read Luke 5:27-32.

5. Why is it a big deal that Jesus is sitting with Levi, other tax collectors, and "some other people"?

Verse 29 of Luke 5 says that Levi hosted a big dinner. This wasn't a dinner for a select group of people, though, this dinner was for EVERYONE!

We are challenging you to have a House Party so you can invite others for a night of fun! This is not a party only for you and your close friends; Levi specifically invited people who were outcasts or far from Jesus to come and meet him. January 18<sup>th</sup> is the night of the party. At your party, anytime between 4-11PM you'll complete photo/video challenges for a chance to win some big prizes! Then on Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, at JHM Worship, winners will be selected and given their prizes. You must be present to win!

Take a few minutes and think about who in your life could use an invite to House Party. Do NOT think about the people in your Christian circle. Think about people who wouldn't usually be at church or who might not feel like they fit in here. Is it someone that eats lunch alone? Is it someone that doesn't know Jesus? Is it someone you don't get along with?

- 6. WHO could you invite? Who are all of the people who potentially come to mind, no matter how crazy.
- 7. If you had a party, WHERE would you do it? Do you have a place?
- 8. Who WILL you invite? What do you need to do now to help make a party happen? (talk to parents, plan with friends, etc)

# **LUKE 5:27-32**

<sup>27</sup> After this Jesus went out and saw a tax collector sitting at his place for collecting taxes. His name was Levi. Jesus said to him, "Follow me!" <sup>28</sup> Levi got up, left everything, and followed Jesus.

<sup>29</sup> Then Levi gave a big dinner at his house for Jesus. At the table there were many tax collectors and some other people too. <sup>30</sup> But the Pharisees and those who taught the law for the Pharisees began to complain to the followers of Jesus, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and other sinners?"

<sup>31</sup> Jesus answered them, "It is the sick people who need a doctor, not those who are healthy. <sup>32</sup> I have not come to ask good people to change. I have come to ask sinners to change the way they live."

### **PRAY**

Encourage one student to pray for the group, specifically that each student invites the person who came to mind to House Party.

\*LEADERS: check in with your students throughout the week and hold them accountable to invite who they said they would!

### HIGH/LOW/GOD THING (15 minutes)