



LIGHT UP | 9-18-24

LARGE GROUP GAME: Roly Poly (25 minutes)

Each grade/gender will split up. Each group member will lie down on the floor with their head facing the wall of the cafeteria. One person from each group will be selected to “surf” on a blanket/towel as their group members roll them to the opposite side of the gym. Once the “surfer” has gone over a group member, the group member gets up and runs to the end of the section and this is repeated until the surfer reaches the other side of the gym. The first group to move their surfer is the winner.

Then, we’ll watch part of this video of a [woman falling through the ceiling](#), because we’re talking about the man who was taken by his friends to see Jesus and was lowered through the roof.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (45 minutes)

Our number one goal tonight is for students to identify at least one person they are inviting to Silent Disco Sunday. We will have invite cards for them to take as they leave group time.

Through the Roof

As a group, read Luke 5:17-26.

1. What stands out to you about this story?
2. What excuses could the man’s friends have made to NOT bring him to Jesus?
3. What excuses have you made to not invite your friends to church or tell them about Jesus?
4. Why do you think the man’s friends went so far out of their way to bring him to Jesus?
5. What would it take for you to overcome your excuses and invite someone to church?
6. How would you have felt if you were the paralyzed man and your friends did it for you? How did his life change because of what they did?

GROUP SPACES

8th Girls – Upper Room/Nook
7th Girls – Hub
6th Girls – Waterside
8th Boys – 2nd Grade
7th Boys – 4-5yr/K-1 Room
6th Boys – 3yr Room

Invitation Challenge

Take a minute or two to sit silently as a group. As you do, think about the person(s) God is calling you to invite. Think about the excuses you have for not inviting them into a relationship with Jesus.

Think about how much better the paralyzed man’s life was because of what his friends did for him. Are any of those excuses more important than the life-change that is possible through Jesus?

Share who came to mind and a way you can invite them.

Hand out the Silent Disco Sunday invite cards to each student. If they had multiple people come to mind for question 1, encourage them to take multiple cards! Challenge students to follow through on their commitment to invite.

Wrap up the night talking about how your group can encourage one another and help each other in this challenge to invite others. You could even mention that one of your leaders will send follow-up messages to the group in the coming days to help students remember.

HIGH/LOW/GOD THING (15 minutes)

Depending on group size, you might split into even smaller (shepherding) groups for this. Have each student go around and identify a highlight of their week, a low point from their week and where they have seen God show up in their week. This time is to help them see God around them, to celebrate when something goes well and for them to be supported when they have had a rough week. If you’re short on time, let them choose one of those three to share.

PRAY

Encourage one student to pray for the group, specifically praying for group members to have the courage to invite others and be a light at their school, on their teams, at home, or wherever they go.

LUKE 5:18-20

¹⁸ Some men came carrying a paralyzed man on a mat and tried to take him into the house to lay him before Jesus. ¹⁹ When they could not find a way to do this because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and lowered him on his mat through the tiles into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus. ²⁰ When Jesus saw their faith, he said, “Friend, your sins are forgiven.”