

**CROSSROADS
CLUB
MANUAL**

Table of Contents

SECTION ONE: HOW TO START A CROSSROADS CLUB

Step One:	Where and when.....	4
Step Two:	Getting Permission.....	4
Step Three:	Leadership Team and Meeting.....	5
Step Four:	Advertising.....	5
Step Five:	The Final Step.....	5
The Keys To Leadership		6

SECTION TWO: THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

Leadership Jobs.....	8-9
Leadership Sheet.....	9
Leadership List.....	10
Leadership List	11

SECTION THREE: SAMPLES & EXAMPLES

Sample Club Meeting.....	13
Sample Parent Letter.....	14
Refreshment Sheet.....	15
Attendance Sheet.....	16
Announcement Sheet.....	17
Speaker/Events Sheet.....	18
Student's Bill of Rights.....	19-20
Helpful Hints.....	21

SECTION FOUR: OUTREACHES

Step One: Pick a date.....	23
Step Two: Talk to your Youth Pastor.....	23
Step Three: Ask permission.....	24
Step Four: Planning.....	24
Step Five: Final Check.....	24
Outreach Sheet.....	25-26

HOW TO START A CROSSROADS CLUB

(SECTION ONE)

STEP ONE: WHERE AND WHEN

- FIRST:** Choose a time for your meeting. Do you want it before or after school?
- SECOND:** Choose a day to have your meeting on. (Tues., Wed., or Thurs., are best.)
- THIRD:** Choose another day to have your leadership meeting on.
- FOURTH:** Ask your teachers if they will let you use their room. Ask for a teacher to be your club teacher sponsor for the club. Find a strong Christian teacher.

(If you can't find a teacher, ask the principal if you can use the cafeteria or auditorium for your meetings. You could even meet in the hallway.)

STEP TWO: GETTING PERMISSION

MEET WITH YOUR PRINCIPAL.

HOW DO I DO THAT?

- FIRST:** Make an appointment in the main office to meet with your principal.
- SECOND:** Express your interest in starting a Crossroads Club.
- THIRD:** Discuss why you want this club and what Crossroads is about.

Helpful tips: *Practice what you might say, before you meet. Look over the Student Rights before the meeting, so you remember your rights. If it helps, take a copy with you. Also, **be sure to take your parent letters.***

STEP THREE: LEADERSHIP TEAM AND MEETING

BUILD A LEADERSHIP TEAM.

- FIRST:** Approach students in your school you know are Christians, sold out for God. Remember this is a non-denominational club, so students from different churches can be in leadership.
- SECOND:** Tell them what Crossroads is and invite them to your leadership meeting.
- THIRD:** At the meeting set goals for the coming months and year. For example, maybe you want to average 15 people a week, by the end of the month.
- FOURTH:** Delegate responsibilities to your leadership team (see leadership jobs).

STEP FOUR: ADVERTISING

IF YOU DON'T TELL ANYONE ABOUT YOUR CLUB, THEY WON'T KNOW TO COME

- FIRST:** Pass out lots of flyers. (ask principal for permission)
- SECOND:** Try to get an announcement over the intercom during the daily announcements.
- THIRD:** As a leadership team, call and text reminders the day before to anyone interested.

STEP FIVE: THE FINAL STEP

- FIRST:** Remind the leadership team of their responsibilities.
- SECOND:** If you aren't speaking, schedule a guest speaker. (see pg. 20)
- THIRD:** Pray God would use you to impact your school.

THE KEYS TO LEADERSHIP

- FIRST:** Live a life full of and led by the Holy Spirit!
(Ephesians 5:18)
“For without me you can do nothing.” (John 15:5b)
The stress is not on you, but on God. “Be anxious for nothing but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.” (Phil. 4:6)
- SECOND: STAND ON GOD’S PROMISES!**
We must find His promises and stand on them for our lives daily. Daily spend time in God’s Word to find His promises. (memorize & meditate on God’s Word)
- THIRD: STAY UNDER GOD’S AUTHORITIES & KEEP PRIORITIES**
God’s Authorities: Parents, Pastor/Youth Worker, Principal, Teachers
God’s Priorities: 1) Jesus Christ, 2) Family 3) Church 4) Academics 5) Crossroads Club 6) Sports and extracurricular.

CROSSROADS CLUB

**THE LEADERSHIP TEAM
(SECTION TWO)**

LEADERSHIP JOBS

WHAT DO WE DO AS LEADERS?

AT YOUR FIRST LEADERSHIP MEETING GIVE EACH OF THE LEADERS A JOB TO DO.

(If you don't have enough people for each job, you can give some people more than one job. If you don't have enough jobs, you can have two people per job.)

CHOOSE ONE OR MORE PERSONS TO BE IN CHARGE OF:

1. Refreshments:

- To assign, each week, a different club member to bring either food or drink or both.
- To set up a refreshment table at each meeting.
- To manage the Refreshment Sheet, of who is bringing what.

2. Attendance:

- To ensure that everyone signs in at every meeting.
- To greet the people who are coming in.
- To manage the Attendance Sheet.

3. Communication:

- To use the attendance sheets each week for calling/texting attendees with a reminder the day before the next meeting.
- To create Social Media content for the club.

4. Announcements:

- To give the announcements every week using the Announcement Sheet

5. Music:

- To have Christian music playing before and after each club meeting.

6. Speaker/Events:

- To communicate with and schedule a weekly speaker (This can be a student, Youth Pastor, or Youth Staff Worker. If you have a student speak, review their message with them, to ensure it is an understandable message. Students can use one of the message outlines or share from a teen devotional book.)

- To plan other activities like dramas, personal testimony sharing, prayer, discussions, games or other creative ideas.**
- To manage the Speaker/Events Sheet.**
- 7. Opening & Closing Prayer:**
 - To say the opening and closing prayer for the weekly meeting**

WHAT'S NEXT?

FILL OUT THE LEADERSHIP SHEET & LIST.

It's the head leader's job to call all the leaders to ensure that they know what they're doing. Don't worry if you don't have enough leaders at first. The jobs are simple, and you can do a lot of them yourself. Leaders will come as the club grows. Fill out this sheet, so you can keep track of who's doing what.

Leadership

Who's In Charge Of?

Refreshments: _____

Attendance: _____

Calling
People: _____

Announcements: _____

Music: _____

Opening
Prayer: _____

Closing
Prayer: _____

Posters/Flyers: _____

Speakers: _____

Leadership List

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CROSSROADS CLUB

Samples & Examples
(section three)

SAMPLE CLUB MEETINGS

BEFORE SCHOOL MEETING

(example if school starts at 8:00 am)

- 7:15** Leaders arrive at the meeting and set up refreshments, music, sign up table, etc...
- 7:20** Students begin arriving. Have them sign in, and have food, music while you wait for everyone.
- 7:30** Opening prayer
- 7:40** Announcements
Announce speaker
- 7:45** Speaker, or have prayer time, testimonies, or small group sharing. Closing comments, questions, prayer needs, etc.
Closing prayer

After closing prayer, people can eat, talk or listen to music until the bell rings.

AFTER SCHOOL MEETING

(example if school gets out at 3:00pm)

- 3:05** Leaders arrive at the meeting and set up refreshments, music, sign up table, etc...
- 3:10** Students begin arriving. Have them sign in and have food while you wait for everyone.
- 3:20** Opening prayer
- 3:30** Announcements
Announce speaker
- 3:25** Speaker or have prayer time, testimonies or small group sharing. Closing comments, questions, prayer needs, etc.
Closing prayer

After closing prayer, people can eat, talk or listen to music.

SAMPLE PARENT LETTER

Dear Mr./Mrs. (name of principal):

My son/daughter has expressed to me an interest in starting a Crossroads Club. The clubs, as I understand it, are Christian clubs that join students from many different churches. They allow the students to develop good positive Christian relationships with other students. The club also teaches students valuable morals such as; respecting authority figures, remaining drug and alcohol free, practicing abstinence, etc.

I feel such a club would be a wonderful influence on the campus. I am sure you will agree with me. I am in favor of allowing the students to start a club. I would appreciate your permission and support to have such a resource available.

Sincerely,

John Smith

REFRESHMENTS

LEADER: _____

Date of Meeting: ___/___/___

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Bringing: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Bringing: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Bringing: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Bringing: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Bringing: _____

Date of Meeting: ___/___/___

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Bringing: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Bringing: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Bringing: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Bringing: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Bringing: _____

ATTENDANCE SHEET

Name: _____

Phone: _____

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

LEADER: _____

Date of meeting: ___/___/___

Announcements: _____

Date of meeting: ___/___/___

Announcements: _____

Date of meeting: ___/___/___

Announcements: _____

Date of meeting: ___/___/___

Announcements: _____

SPEAKER/EVENTS

LEADER: _____

Date of Meeting: ____ / ____ / ____

Speaker/Event: _____

Phone: _____

Date of Meeting: ____ / ____ / ____

Speaker/Event: _____

Phone: _____

Date of Meeting: ____ / ____ / ____

Speaker/Event: _____

Phone: _____

Date of Meeting: ____ / ____ / ____

Speaker/Event: _____

Phone: _____

Date of Meeting: ____ / ____ / ____

Speaker/Event: _____

Phone: _____

STUDENT'S BILL OF RIGHTS

I. The Right To Form and Attend Bible clubs and Prayer Groups on Campus.

The Equal Access Act gives students the right to meet on campus for the purpose of participating in Bible Clubs and prayer groups. The Equal Access Act was held to be constitutional by the Supreme Court in Westside Community Schools v. Mergen's, 495 U.S., 110 L.Ed.2d (1990).

II. The Right to Identify Your Religious Beliefs through Signs and Symbols. Students have the right to express their beliefs through the use of Christian jewelry or clothing. "Students (do not) shed their constitutional rights to freedom of speech or expression at the schoolhouse gate." Tinker v. Des Moines Independent School District, 393 U.S. 503, 506 (1969).

III. The Right to Talk about Your Religious Beliefs on Campus. Freedom of speech is a fundamental right mandated by the Constitution of the United States and cannot be prohibited on school grounds without significant justification by the school authorities.

IV. The Right to Distribute Religious Literature on Campus. The distribution of literature on a public school campus may not be restricted merely because it is religious. "When (a student) is in the cafeteria, on the playing field or on the campus during the authorized hours he may express his opinions." Tinker, at 512-13. This includes the right to advertise about the Bible club by using the public address system, school bulletin boards, school newspapers, flier distribution or posters around the school.

V. The Right to Pray on Campus. Students may pray alone or with others so long as it does not disrupt school activities. The Supreme Court has only prohibited school endorsed prayers. Individual prayers have not been prohibited.

VI. The Right to Carry or Study Your Bible on Campus. Students may study their Bible on campus. Any time the student has free time to read unassigned materials is an appropriate time for Bible study or reading. As in the case with school prayer, the Supreme Court has said that only state directed Bible reading is unconstitutional.

VII. The Right To Do Research Papers, Speeches, and Creative Projects with Religious Themes.

The First Amendment does not forbid all mention of religion in public schools. In fact, religious study is allowed as long as the school does not attempt to convert students to a certain religious belief..

VI I. The Right to be Exempt From Classes That Conflict with Deeply Held Religious beliefs. Students may be exempt from activities and class content that contradict their religious beliefs.

IX. The Right to Celebrate or Study Religious Holidays on Campus.

Music, art, literature, and drama that have religious themes are permitted as part of the curriculum for school activities if presented in an objective manner as a traditional part of the cultural and religious heritage of the particular holiday.

X. The Right to Meet with School Officials.

The First Amendment to the Constitution forbids congress to make any law that would restrict the right of the people to petition the Government (school officials). Students have the right to meet with officials of the school and should be encouraged to establish a good relationship with school administrators.

HELPFUL TIPS

Personal Questions

1. HOW'S YOUR SPIRITUAL LIFE?
2. ARE YOU IN PRAYER EVERY DAY?
3. ARE YOU IN THE WORD EVERY DAY?
4. OUTSIDE OF THE CLUB, DO YOU SET A GOOD CHRISTIAN EXAMPLE?

POSSIBLE SPEAKERS

1. STUDENTS IN LEADERSHIP
2. STUDENTS IN THE CLUB
3. YOUTH PASTOR
4. YOUTH STAFF MEMBER

OTHER THINGS TO DO AT CLUB MEETINGS

1. GAMES
2. DISCUSSIONS
3. BREAK INTO PRAYER GROUPS
4. DRAMA
5. TESTIMONIES
6. VIDEOS
7. SMALL GROUP SHARING (GROW INTO ACCOUNTABILITY GROUPS).
8. EVERY FOUR TO SIX WEEKS HAVE A "SEEK WEEK", AND BRING LOST FRIENDS!
9. GEAR THE MEETINGS SO THAT NEW PEOPLE WOULD FEEL COMFORTABLE

CROSSROADS CLUBS

Outreaches (section Four)

STEP ONE: PICK A DATE **START PLANNING AT LEAST ONE MONTH IN** **ADVANCE!!!**

WHAT FIRST?

FIRST: With your leadership, decide on a date and time for the outreach. Choose a location for the outreach. (you could have it in the cafeteria, auditorium, etc...)

SECOND: Pass out the Outreach Sheet to leadership and start thinking of ways to do some of the things listed.

THIRD: Ask your leadership to talk to their Youth Pastor/parents and ask them what they can do to help. Have your Youth Pastors commit to one or more items on the Outreach Sheet.

STEP TWO: TALK TO YOUR YOUTH **PASTOR** **YOU'RE GOING TO NEED OUTSIDE HELP.**

WHAT DO I TELL MY PASTOR?

FIRST: Tell him/her you want to plan an outreach at your school.

SECOND: Tell him/her the date, time and location of the outreach.

THIRD: Show your pastor the Outreach Sheet and ask what he/she can help with.

FOURTH: Meet with your leadership and make sure that everything on the Outreach Sheet is covered.

STEP THREE: ASK PERMISSION
GET PERMISSION FROM YOUR PRINCIPAL
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

IT'S REAL EASY. ALL YOU DO IS:

FIRST: Set up an appointment with your principal.

SECOND: Tell him where and when you want to have the outreach. Be sure to tell him exactly what's going to be going on at the outreach (band, pizza, etc.). Remember to tell him that people will be there an hour early to set up.

THIRD: If your principal won't allow you to have an outreach, try to rent space in your school. Often schools will allow you to rent the cafeteria or auditorium right after school.

STEP FOUR: PLANNING
SIT DOWN WITH YOUR LEADERSHIP AND
MAKE SURE EVERYTHING IS TAKEN CARE
OF.

WHAT FIRST?

FIRST: Go through the Outreach Sheet to check that you've taken care of everything.

SECOND: Start making and passing flyers. Be active on Social Media to get the word out.

STEP FIVE: FINAL CHECK
ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS GO THROUGH THE
CHECKLIST.

OUTREACH SHEET

THINGS YOU'LL NEED:

MONEY: There are several different ways you can raise money for supplies and events. You can have a bake sale or car wash. You can ask your youth pastor, parents, or other people in your church for donations.

SOUND SYSTEM: You'll need a sound system and someone who knows how to set it up and operate it. If you don't have one at your church that you can use, see if any of the other leaderships' churches have sound systems you could use.

BAND: Music will draw people. You can use a Christian alternative group or a hip-hop group. Use whatever your school likes best. You'll probably need to pay the band.

DYNAMIC SPEAKER: You don't want to have a boring speaker. You want someone who is able to preach the Gospel message powerfully and relatably. A youth pastor would be a good person for the job, or an evangelist who has visited your church before.

PIZZA: Pizza is another hook. It's also another reason why raising money is a good idea. You don't have to buy a hundred pizzas. You can usually get by with twenty. That will cost around \$90. Be sure to have a parent pick up the pizza the day of the outreach at least ½ hour before the outreach. Order the pizza at least the day before the outreach, and confirm total cost so you aren't surprised when you go to pay. Be sure to pick up plates and napkins. It's best to pass out the pizza **AFTER** the speaker.

MCDONALD'S ORANGE DRINK: You can buy orange Hi-C from any McDonald's. It is easy to make. All you have to do is call a McDonald's that is close to the school and reserve a jug to hold the drink. The syrup usually costs around \$5. Be sure you have someone who can pick it up and don't forget to buy cups.

BUCKETS/PENCILS/COMMITMENT CARDS: Be sure to have commitment cards on hand (see sample). This will help you follow up on everyone who gives their life to Christ. You can use buckets to collect the cards.

GIVEAWAY: Do a fun giveaway! A \$10 gift card or gift certificate works great. You can draw a name from the commitment cards. This is a good way to get everyone to turn in their cards.