

Prologue: AN OPEN FIRE

A story about loving others.

“Have you ever walked past an open fire that wasn’t yours?”

*I mean you didn’t build it, you. But you walked by it, and when you did, you instantly felt the heat that it produced. You may or may not have acknowledged it...but regardless, **you felt the heat.***

For those of us who desire to follow Jesus faithfully, this image should be make us think hard.

In fact, this is the way that Jesus lived His life on earth. His actions, His interactions with others, and His insights provided warmth not only to those that were huddled around the fire of His life, but to everyone who passed by as well. Often those “on the outside” were attracted the most magnetically to the heartbeat of Jesus.

They felt the heat before they embraced the fire.”

“I used to think of myself as a flamethrower. Today I have a different picture. One that’s not only more inviting to others, but frankly, one that generates significantly more heat than the old model.

I want my life to be a bonfire of grace and love. I want the flames to generate warmth, not only for friends and family, but for strangers and skeptics. I want my life to warm hearts as a part of the process of the Holy Spirit igniting their hearts.

I want the brokenness, disappointment, challenges and joys of my own life to provide ample kindling for the kind of fire that attracts and engages others.

I want to be a beautiful bonfire of grace, humility and love...to warm the hearts of people who just happen to cross my path, who just happen to wander past the fire.”

Dan Wolgemuth (President of Youth For Christ/USA)

SO...

Sharing Jesus’ love for people is about more than “evangelism.” It’s living like Jesus did...as a warm bonfire of grace and love. **Loving and sharing with people like Jesus did is a way of life.**

Sharing Jesus is NOT about selling your faith or judging others or having all the answers.

Sharing Jesus IS about loving, learning, sharing and meeting people where they are at. Just like Jesus! It’s time to put down our flamethrowers and simply BE the fire!

THAT’S what this workbook is about.

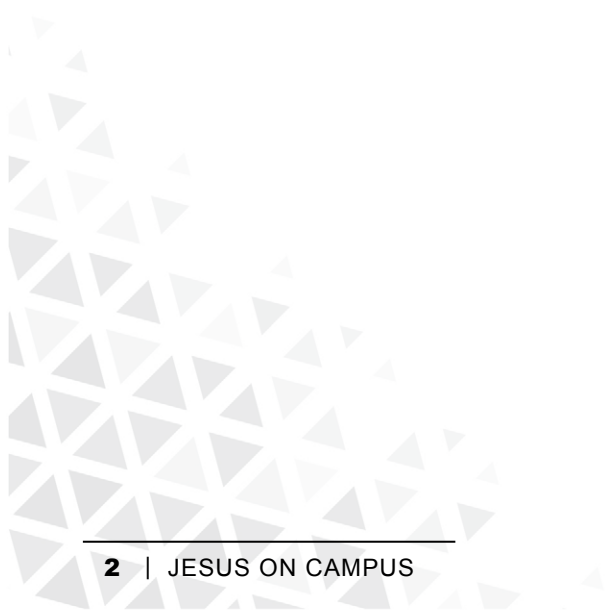
Keep this in mind as you work through what we think are the essentials for any group of friends who desire to impact their campus and love their peers for Jesus!

The word “evangelism”...the concept of sharing your faith often has negative connotations to both Christians and non-Christians. Why? Here are here are a few of the reasons:

- Usually people think that to share their faith, they need to “**sell their faith**”...to make someone an offer they can’t refuse. This is really intimidating! To both Christians and non-Christians.
- It often seems that those who are sharing their faith have **attitude issues**. They approach others with the mindset that says, “I know the truth and you don’t”...or...“You need to be saved and I want to save you.” This is the LAST thing people want to hear!
- **Everyone is afraid of judgment!** You don’t want others to judge you as you share your faith, and they don’t want to be judged by someone who acts as if they know all the answers!

Three Story Evangelism® is a method of sharing your faith that is natural and non-threatening. The most important requirement is that you become someone’s friend! Now, this DOES NOT mean that you act like their friend just so you can share your faith with them...that’s deceitful and they will see right through it! It means that you truly care about them and become a good friend to them...a friend whose love for them is clearly influenced by the love of Christ. Go to 3story.org for more resources.

So, let’s get out there and love people!



JESUS ON CAMPUS

*How does Jesus want to use you on your
campus?*

A Student-led Campus Ministry Workbook

from

Southern California Youth For Christ
www.socalyfc.org

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loving Jesus and loving my friends...
THE ESSENTIALS

INTRODUCTION

*What does Jesus want to do through me on my campus
and
how will this workbook help me?*

Introduction

READ THIS FIRST!

Okay, if you've opened this book and read this far, chances are you understand and believe Jesus has placed you on your campus for a reason. Going to school every day, you know you have a greater purpose than simply passing classes and getting into college. You walk the halls and sit in class each day, surrounded by your peers, knowing that Jesus loves them and wants them to know His love.

So...what is your role? How do you extend the love of Jesus to your friends? How can you and your friends be a light on your campus?

That's what this workbook is for—to walk you through those questions.

The good news is this: loving your friends for Jesus is not a to-do list! It's not some formula or program.

Loving your friends for Jesus is a way of life...a way of loving. It's being transformed by the love of Christ, living accordingly and becoming a friend to others, loving them the same way Jesus loves you.

What does that look like? Well, you've come to the right place! We know there are tons of different ways to do on-campus ministry and tons of great resources out there to help make your ministry stronger, but this workbook is different. We're going to get to the heart of the matter by focusing on the six essentials we think are most important in shaping and transforming your on-campus ministry!

This workbook is intended to be simple, straightforward and interactive. We want to get your heart involved and to help you do some work with Jesus so that the result is a lifestyle of love, a way of living and not a program or to-do list!

The six essentials are as follows:

- **Brokenness:** we all need fixing
- **Abiding:** becoming deeply connected to Jesus
- **Community:** staying connected to one another
- **Finding a Coach/Mentor:** every team needs a coach
- **Relationships:** becoming more connected to our wandering friends
- **Story:** we have a great story to tell
- **Trying it out:** following Jesus together by doing Holy Experiments

Each section will include:

- scripture verses
- short thoughts from those verses
- a solo exercise for YOU
- a group exercise for you and your friends (or your team) to do together.

Time to dive in!