

In-N-Out

Week 3: Whatever it takes

What we want students to learn: Jesus has called us to have a "whatever it takes faith."

What we want students to do with what they've learned: We want our students to feel more comfortable inviting their friends to FPS and sharing their stories with the world, no matter what it takes.

Large Group Message Focus: Over the last three weeks, we have been discussing why we invite, the importance of making God their number one priority, and now we will be discussing how to get there by doing whatever it takes. There are numerous things that many of us would do "whatever it takes" to obtain. One of those things should be carrying out friends, families, and the world to the feet of Jesus.

Scripture Focus: Mark 2:1-12

The Main Point

We all have stuff that we would be willing to do whatever it takes to achieve, obtain, or experience. We would be willing to do anything for temporary things, but when forever is concerned, we shy away from this "whatever it takes" attitude. In reality, we should all be doing WHATEVER IT TAKES to drag, carry, and lead the people around us to the feet of Jesus just like we will read in our story from the Bible today.

INTRODUCTION

• What is one thing you would do whatever it takes to get or do?

There are so many things that we would go out of our way to obtain or achieve, but why aren't we doing that for Jesus?

Pray that your students would have open hearts ready to receive what God has for them tonight!

LESSON

- What does it mean to do "whatever it takes" for Jesus?
 - O Some answers that you will probably get are "learning more about the bible," "praying," or "doing big things for God." Though those answers are always good things to do, in order to do "whatever it takes" for the kingdom of God, we have to begin thinking about others.

To dive into group tonight, have your students read Mark 2:1-12. Focus in on verses 3 and 4, especially. These two verses show the depths of a "whatever it takes" attitude. The carried their friend, took him to the roof, and then began to dig in order for their friend to come face to face with Jesus. They were willing to do WHATEVER IT TOOK.

- What is holding you back from having a "whatever it takes" faith?
 - o Fear, popularity, lack of knowledge, worry, etc.
- Why is it important to have this type of faith?
 - We live in a world full of desperation, a world in need of a forever. If we keep fighting for temporary things, then we are fighting for the wrong thing. We should be giving our all, doing everything we can, and going all out in order to shine the light that Jesus has given us.

LIFE APPLICATION

To close out group tonight, talk about these three "whatever it takes" commitments that they can make today.

- 1. <u>Whatever it takes, even if it seems impossible</u> The men in this story had to travel a long way to bring their friend to Jesus. This journey probably seemed to be never-ending, and even impossible, but they pushed on.
 - When it comes to inviting your friends here or talking about Jesus, does it ever feel impossible. What are some things that feel impossible?
 - This may come out as the comment "there is no way I will ever get my friend to church." or
 "There is no way I'd ever be able to do that." Make sure your students know that these are lies
 and they can do it.

Consider telling a story to your students where a situation seemed impossible, but was possible because of Jesus.

- 2. Whatever it takes- even if it's uncomfortable It could not have been comfortable carrying a grown man and trying to push through a crowd. But, our student are probably not facing physical discomfort when it comes to inviting their friends to FPS.
 - What makes you uncomfortable about inviting your friends to FPS?
 - Stepping out of their comfort zone will probably be inviting someone to church, for the fear of rejection or of it being awkward.
 - What is the worst that could happen if you step out and invite someone?
 - It could be awkward, they could say no.. But THAT'S IT. After that, move on and keep inviting until someone says yes.
- **3.** Whatever it takes- even if you face opposition The men in our story faced opposition by there not being any room for them. They did not just give up though, they found another way. They persisted.
 - How many times have you almost asked a friend to church and said, "I can just try next week." Why do we do this?
 - We do this because we do not want to face the opposition that may follow, but the bible teaches us to push through, to be persistent.
 - How can we persevere in spite of opposition?

• We can do this by not giving up, continuing to love them, and also continuing to show them Jesus through us.

TAKE IT OUT

Close small group out with prayer requests. Pray specifically for the group to understand how important it is to do whatever it takes to bring people to Jesus. It is what we were created for.

Make sure to invite you students to THE WEEKEND! Also, make sure you are talking to your students about Movement. Maybe consider sharing a story from your past experience!!!