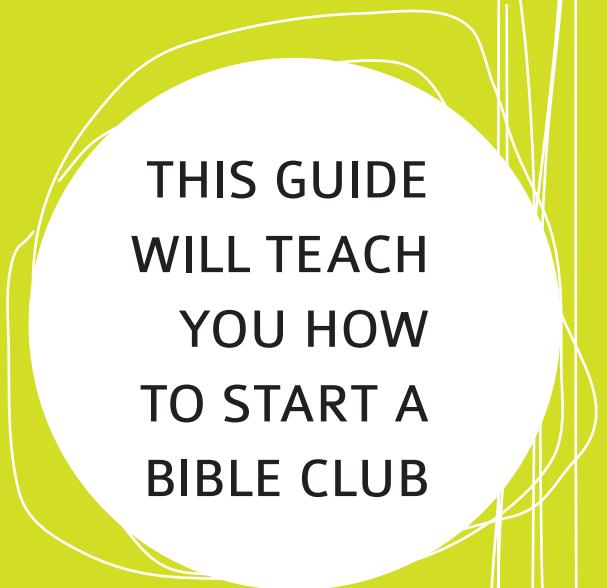




STARTER AND
STRATEGY GUIDE



THIS GUIDE WILL TEACH YOU HOW TO START A BIBLE CLUB

IN ONLINE SCHOOLS, HOME

SCHOOLS, PRIVATE SCHOOLS AND

PUBLIC SCHOOLS. AFTER SHARING

HOW TO GAIN SCHOOL APPROVAL

AND START YOUR CLUB, WE

WILL LAYOUT STRATEGIES, IDEAS

AND EXPERIENCES ON HOW TO

LEAD AN ONGOING, SUCCESSFUL

SCHOOL CLUB.



HOW TO START A P7 CLUB

IN A PUBLIC SCHOOL

Public school is the most common educational choice for young students in America. Starting Project 7 in your public school is your right as a student, but you still need to follow club guidelines your school sets. First, you will need go to your school's main office or student services office and request a "Club Start-Up Form." Then, you will need to fulfill the obligations they request. The typical requirements of a starting a club in a public school is as follows:

• Select a Student Club President or Leader. The club's student leader handles making decisions for the club, as well as leading the meetings. This position is normally held by the student starting the club.

• Find a Teacher Sponsor. If you are going to run a school recognized club, you will need a teacher sponsor. Finding a teacher willing to sponsor your club is the toughest requirement to fulfill. A teacher sponsor is an employee of the school that makes sure your club runs safely. The teacher sponsor provides adult supervision, but at the same time the sponsor cannot lead, participate in, or run the club in any way.

• Names of 10-20 Interested Students. Public schools usually require proof of student interest in the club so they can justify creating it on the campus. Typically, you can fulfill the student interest requirements by inviting your friends to sign up for the club.

• Select a Time and Day for Meetings. Public school meetings can only take place during non-instructional hours, which means your club can only take place before school, during lunch, or after school.

• Club Name. Your club name should be “Project 7.”

Once you complete the obligations for starting a club, submit the form and information to the main office. Most schools will approve a club as soon as you turn in the form. Other schools will respond back to you within a week. If your school does not respond within a week, you need to be proactive about obtaining approval to start your club. Being proactive means asking the administration or office staff questions about why your club hasn't been approved yet. Make sure the office staff gave your club forms to the correct person and schedule a meeting to talk to that person if need be. You may have to ask your Teacher Sponsor or School Counselor to assist you if you do not receive a response after checking on your application status a couple of times.

IF YOUR CLUB IS DENIED (PUBLIC SCHOOLS ONLY)

If you fulfilled all of your school's requirements to start a club, and your club was still denied, it is your responsibility to educate your school about your rights as a student. The U.S. law a school breaks by illegally denying a club is called the “Equal Access Act” or “EAA.” The EAA protects

your rights as a student to have equal access to meet at school for religious, political and philosophical purposes. Please get into contact with us at P7 if your school denies your club, and we will help guide you through the process of informing your school of your legal rights as a public school student.

***Note:** The only way a public school can deny you access to an official club is if they deny every club. On occasion, a school will have a very strict club policy in which they do not allow student-led clubs. It does happen, and it is the only legal way for public schools to stop clubs from starting on campus.*

IN AN ONLINE OR CYBER SCHOOL

Online schools are gaining more and more popularity each year. Most online schools use a thread, forum or blog style format for communication. To start an online club, simply ask the teacher or facilitator if you can start an online thread, blog or discussion post about Project 7, or if you can have a religious discussion. If circumstances don't allow you to post directly to the school or class page, it is OK. Another avenue you can use is video chat via Skype, Google Hangouts, ooVoo, etc. You can invite your classmates and your friends to join your video chat Bible study. Online Bible studies are becoming more and more common in today's generation.

IN A HOMESCHOOL

If your homeschool is online, then please refer to the previous

section. It is not difficult to start a Project 7 Club in a homeschool setting. If your homeschool is a part of a group or co-op, then you will need to ask permission from the facilitator or administrator to begin a P7 club. Once you receive permission, invite your local friends to your Project 7 club. Your friends don't have to be a part of your homeschool group or co-op. They might attend public school. Invite anyone you know. Simply pick a day and time you would like to meet, and schedule your first meeting.

IN A PRIVATE SCHOOL

Unlike public schools, private schools are not legally obligated to grant you permission to start a Project 7 club because they are not government-funded. Just because they're not obligated does not mean you can't have a club in a private school, but the opportunity may be limited depending on the situation.

Private schools are typically religious institutions that welcome student-led spiritual activities, which is ideal for a P7 club. The main concern with starting a P7 club at a private school is that you often must comply with the school's doctoral teachings and school rules. If you don't agree with everything they say, the school may not allow your club, or may eventually shut your club down.

As a student, the first step you will need to take is to gather the names of as many people as possible interested in being a part of the P7 club. It doesn't have to be a lot of people. It is helpful for gaining approval for your club if you already have a good rapport with the teachers, students, and administration.

Once you can show there is interest in having a student-led Bible club on campus, and then you can approach the school's activity director, dean or principal. Let the school's activity director, dean or principal know

how many students are interested in attending Project 7 at your school. If the school gives you the approval to start, be sure to study the section "How to Run a Club" Below. Private Schools are typically religious institutions that

welcome student lead spiritual activities, which is ideal for a P7 Club. If the private school does not allow you to begin a club on campus, you can always start an online club via Google Hangouts, Skype or another video chat app or website.

Private Schools are typically religious institutions that welcome student lead spiritual activities, which is ideal for a P7 Club.

MY CLUB IS APPROVED!

NOW, WHAT DO I DO?

SET A DATE

Set a date for your first meeting! The three main things you need to accomplish before your first meeting are:

1. Build a small team
2. Advertise on campus,
3. Set a plan of action for how to run your club.

ONE

Build a small team of leaders first, and then add more leaders as you grow. There is no reason for you take on the burden of starting a club completely alone. The easiest way to build a team is to start with students that already go to your church. If you are the only student that attends your church and school, then use your friends, or find other Christians from other churches that attend school with you (their denomination does not matter). The initial goal is to have a core group of students that want to be a part of a Christian club.

TWO

Advertisement is an essential part of telling people about your club. First, you need to tell other Christians and friends about Project 7. Once you have a solid base of core students interested in attending, then begin to advertise to the rest of the school. You can hand out flyers, hang posters, use the school announcement system, or social media to get the word out about Project 7. A great way to advertise is to target students that are not participating in any other activity during the time your club is in session.

THREE

Set a plan of action for how to run your club. Plan a time schedule (see samples below) and choose the lesson of the week. Decide what your icebreaker will be, and if you will have food at that week's meeting or not. Will you play a game? Who will teach the lesson? Make sure you plan every part of the meeting. Get your team involved!



Every semester, we provide new lessons to use during P7 meetings. We will add more lessons on a regular basis, so you always have new material to choose from. You may also create your own lessons. The lessons are available for download and are arranged in 7 sections.

1. Preview: A short description of the lesson.
2. Praise: An opportunity for everyone to praise God.
3. Parable: A narrative used to lay a foundation for the lesson.
4. Present: The heart of the lesson is revealed.
5. Practice: Offers practical applications of the principles in the lesson.
6. Pray: Everyone's opportunity to chat with God about all they learned.
7. Plus: Provides instructions to give to students for additional study and practice of the lesson outside of the P7 meetings.

MANAGING YOUR P7 CLUB

There are many ways to run a P7 club, but first we need to understand that Project 7 is not just a Bible study club; it's a social club. Project 7 is a place where

Christians of all denominations and other students who don't claim to be believers can gather together and have fun. Your club will have a hard time succeeding if all you do is have a Bible study and leave. No one wants to be in a boring Bible study club, so you need to make your meetings fun and engaging. Make sure to include everyone.

TEACHING TIPS

As you familiarize yourself with the lessons and prepare to teach, consider the following tips:

- Spend time in prayer before you teach.
- Stay cool under fire. Criticism can be turned to an advantage. Remaining cool allows you to make rational decisions and statements.
- Mean what you say and say what you mean.
- Manage your time or it will manage you.
- Know your material.
- Make respect a central part of P7 culture. You have to give respect to get respect.
- Be flexible because the unexpected will occur.



SAMPLE TIME SCHEDULES FOR A SUCCESSFUL P7 CLUB

Here are two sample time schedules for a successful P7 club. You can adjust these schedules as needed to best fit your group. We'll start with a sample schedule for a morning club since it's shorter. Then we'll look at a sample schedule for an after school club, which is usually longer.

MORNING CLUBS

Morning clubs are typically 5-15 minutes long and characterize as prayer clubs. They usually meet at the flagpole or in the middle of the courtyard before school. Typically, the student leader will have a short lesson (3-5 minutes), and students will pray about the lesson topic, their school, friends, teachers, etc. Once the bell rings to go to class, the meeting needs to end.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

After School Clubs, usually 30-50 minutes long. This example will work for time slots for 30 minutes or longer.

The first 10-15 minutes: Play common Christian music while everyone starts coming into the room. Be social and greet new people to make them feel welcome. This intro time is a perfect time for you to invite people to church and find out what they think about life. What is their world-view? Do they believe in God? Do they go to church? What is happening in their life?

If no one shows up to a meeting, go out to the hallway and invite

people who have nowhere else to go. For the first few meetings, and then once a month, take time during the start of your club to walk around your school campus looking for students and inviting them to the meeting.

The second 10-15 minutes: Start the meeting with a short prayer and then go into an icebreaker or game to help build friendships and get new people involved. Here are some ideas for icebreakers.

- Watch a short inspirational video on YouTube.
- If you have artistic students, give them a topic and have them write a poem or a song.
- Students can use this time to testify and share short stories about their life and the good things God is doing in their lives.
- If you have someone who plays guitar and sings, have some live music.
- Bring some sort of snack or food at least once a month. Nothing draws in students like FREE FOOD. Get with your youth pastor, pastor, or another adult and ask them to sponsor your club. Your parents can also help provide food.

The third 10-15 minutes: Start the Project 7 lesson. Make sure you studied before you try to present it. End the lesson in prayer and make sure you collect visitors' name and contact information. Invite everyone to your church. Always remember to clean the room and thank your teacher sponsor.

CONSIDERATIONS

- This is only a guideline and if you are running your club differently and it is working then continue what you are doing and share it with us.
- If there is already a Bible club at your school then please be respectful and try not to have your club on the same day as the other Bible clubs. We do not compete with other Christian groups. I would recommend befriending the other club.

What is their world-view? Do they believe in God? Do they go to church?
What is happening in their life?

- In 2015, we had a few students receive the gift of the Holy Ghost during P7 in a public school classroom. If you find yourself in a situation where the Spirit is moving then pursue the Spirit. Please only react to the Spirit moving on someone and do not force the situation on a student.

THINGS TO AVOID

ON CAMPUS

Please remember the object of P7 is to spread the love of Jesus in the most diplomatic way possible on campus. Schools are a melting pot, and you should stay away from doctrinal issues that could be a point of doctrinal difference when engaging other Christians as such. Jesus Name baptism, receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues and holiness standards are all important; however, P7 isn't the place to try to convince others of their importance.

The idea of the P7 club is not to debate other people or ideas, but to build healthy relationships and friendships with fellow students.

Another main purpose of P7 clubs is to introduce students to your local church. When a student comes to your youth group then you, your youth pastor, or pastor can preach and teach doctrinal truths. Bringing people to church all begins with friendship, and P7 clubs are a great way to build friendships.

From time to time, you may have to deal with a student who only wants to disrupt the P7 meeting and what you are trying to accomplish. Disruptive students may be from other religions or denominations, or they may be on the defensive due to sin or a lifestyle choice that conflicts with Christianity. Disruption can be annoying, and if the problem gets out of hand, then you should have your teacher sponsor remove the student. Please refrain from debating. If someone asks a question you do not know the answer to it's ok. Simply write down the question and tell them you will have an answer for them the next week.

***Jesus Name baptism,
receiving the gift
of the Holy Ghost
with the evidence
of speaking in
tongues and
holiness standards
are all important;
however, P7 isn't
the place to try to
convince others of
their importance.***

Do not take club time to answer questions that turn into distractions. Always answer questions before or after the meeting. Of course, if it is a simple question that has to do with the lesson, then by all means take a moment to answer.

INVOLVING YOUR YOUTH PASTOR, YOUTH LEADER, OR CHURCH YOUTH WORKERS

The most successful clubs almost always have a spiritual leader involved with the club. Yes, your youth pastor, youth leader or church youth workers can come on campus and even teach a lesson at your club.

First, your guest will need to fill out a volunteer form at the school, and have a background check completed. If a person has a criminal record, they will likely fail the background check and will not be allowed on the school campus. As the P7 club leader, you need to

invite your guest to campus. Law states outside spiritual leaders can't regularly attend the club because it must be student-led, but usually once the school gets to know your youth leader they can pretty much come and go freely. It is important the youth leader is as friendly as possible to the office staff and teacher sponsor. As a visitor to the club, a youth pastor or leader can interact with the students freely and be social. The main role of a youth leader at P7 is to encourage the student leader and to help facilitate the club's food needs.



P7CLUBS.COM

If you have other questions, visit our website P7clubs.com. If the website doesn't provide an answer to your question, please contact us and we will be happy to assist you in any way possible.

Register your club on the website and fill out all the requested information. All of the lessons and resources are free to download. Visit our store and purchase any merchandise you may want for your club.



**PRAY &
PARTNER**

**PREPARE &
PRACTICE**

**PLAN &
PRESENT**

PRODUCE

P7CLUBS.COM



P7CLUBS



P7CLUBS



P7CLUBS