This document can be used with the P7Clubs powerpoint!

Project 7 Bible Clubs ( otherwise known as “P7” or “P7 Clubs”) is a free resource for students to utilize for the purpose of starting Bible Clubs on their High School and Middle School campuses. P7 Clubs are student-led and student-driven opportunities for students to participate in a spiritually inspired, relationship-oriented, community-serving project in their school.

The greatest project you could ever work on is within the seven years of secondary school--a project that leads to completion in Christ!

The mission statement of Project 7 is simple to:

1. Unlock Faith
2. Unleash Truth
3. Elevate Christ
4. Serve Others

Project 7 Core Values consist of:

1. **Accountability** – Taking responsibility for our actions on and off campus that influence the lives of others.
2. **Communication** – Showing love to everyone through our words and actions.
3. **Empowerment** – Empowering students to take initiative and give their best to the mission God has for their life.
4. **Integrity** – Acting with honesty and character without compromising the truth.
5. **Leadership** – Leading with courage in order to shape the future.
6. **Relationship** – Encouraging relationship with God and with others.
7. **Community** – Establishing community among the student body, and use that strength to impact the local community through service projects and supporting current causes.

Currently, there are over 600 P7 Clubs up and running in North America!

Perhaps you’re wondering how to start a P7 Bible Club. We’re happy to help!

There are four easy steps to start a P7 Club on your middle/high school campus.

1. Pray and Partner
	1. The first step in starting your club is to pray! Pray that God will give you direction and wisdom as your start your club. Pray for your school administration to embrace your club, for students to be hungry and open to attend your club, and for God to prepare the way for you.
	2. Be sure to partner with your spiritual leaders (youth pastor, youth leaders, pastor, etc) for their help and support. While they are not allowed to actually start the club and lead it, they can be a valuable asset in giving you guidance, instruction, training, and encouragement along the way. Be sure to have them pray with you, as well.
2. Plan and Present
	1. It may seem intimidating at first to start something out of nothing. We assure you, however, that we will provide all the help and assistance necessary to ensure you have everything you need to get your club approved by your school and to launch it.
	2. Planning is 90% of the work. Presenting your plan to the school administration is 10% of the work. If your planning is done well, you have no reason to be intimidated about starting your club. Rather, you will be able to confidently present your plan for a successful launch!
	3. Some items you’ll need will consist of:
		1. Student interest list – let the school know who is all interested in seeing this club happen
		2. Letter to the school / proposal / charter – these items, depending on the school would love to see it, or may deem it unnecessary. It is always better to overprepare and let the school decide they don’t need something instead of coming unprepared.
		3. These are items you don’t need to create from scratch, but can be downloaded right of the P7 website for free at p7clubs.com
		4. The meeting with the principal (or activities coordinator, or whoever is in charge of student clubs at your school) is crucial. Come prepared with all needed information and a heart to serve the school and better the school. This is an opportunity to talk about the core values of P7 – administration loves hearing students talking about integrity, community service, accountability, etc.
		5. Some school administrators are not aware of your rights as a student and may be nervous about letting a student start a religious club. If this becomes a problem, there is information at p7clubs.com about your rights – and we’ll go over it later.
3. Prepare and Practice
	1. Once your club is approved, be sure to get it on the map by registering your club here. We will send you a welcome package and follow up with you to provide any support you need along the way.
	2. Prepare for your first meeting. There are many ways to lead a Bible Club meeting. Here are some tips to get you started!
		1. **Get the word out** – Tell everyone you know about your first meeting.
		2. Use the PA system, the school newspaper, bulletin boards, etc. If other student-led clubs use these resources, the Equal Access Act guarantees that you can use them as well.
		3. Word of mouth is always the best outreach tool.
	3. Practice – It’s time to launch! Put to practice all the things you learned and launch your first meeting. Make your first meeting a major hit!
4. Produce
	1. Now that you’ve unlocked your faith in your school, it is time to produce a harvest and start turning your world upside-down!

So now that we’ve talked about how to actually start P7 Clubs, there’s the question that many people ask. Does P7 really work?

Let me tell you about a few people that P7 changed their life.

**Cali Dibbs**

Cali was a middle schooler when her parents divorced.

It ripped their family a part and she struggled with anger self harm.

One day Cali was invited to a P7 Club and she said she felt the love of God like never before. She visited an Apostolic church and God filled her with the gift of the holy ghost the second time she attended. She believes it was that day that God healed her from her anxiety and depression, as well.

Cali was baptized in Jesus name and has been faithfully serving the Lord for four years.

Cali now serves in children’s ministry in her local church.

All because someone started a P7 Bible club.

**Coach Arnold**

Coach Arnold was the teacher sponsor for a P7 Club at Volunteer High School in Churchill, TN. He would sit in P7 meetings, but wasn’t necessarily involved. Eventually he became more intrigued and started to participate. There was a P7 Rally happening in Tennessee and the club invited him to come. That night, Coach Arnold received the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Why? Because a student answered the call of God on their life.

**Harrison Ellis**

Harrison’s parents divorced when he was in middle school and ended up living by himself most of the time. His parents were for the most part non-existent and he had to fend for himself. Harri started stealing things so that he could buy groceries. He eventually started selling drugs and bought his first car. Harrison’s life was on a downward spiral, until he was invited to a P7 Club. The only reason he came was because they had free breakfast. He found so much more. Harrison started attending P7 regularly, and eventually made his way to an Apostolic church. After a few weeks of attending, God changed his life by filling him with the Holy Ghost and he was baptized in Jesus’ name. Harrison’s testimony continues to reach kids in a local youth ministry because he serves on a youth team in Appleton, Wisconsin and also serves as the Wisconsin District Project 7 Coordinator.

Why? Because a student answered the call of God on their life.

**Max Hartzheim**

Max was raised in church. He was a regular student who loved God and served in ministry. He felt a tug on his heart when he was in 6th grade to start a P7 Club. So, he took the challenge and made it happen.

Except…nobody showed up. The next week, same thing. For almost 2 months, he had P7 and nobody came. He decided he was going to get more serious about this. He committed to praying and fasting for his school and asked God to send revival. The following week, someone came. The following week, two people. Week over week it continued to grow into what became a thriving P7 Club. Max is now in 10th grade and has been leading a P7 Club for five years.

**Aleyah** **Kahl**

Aleyah was a 7th grader who felt the call of God on her life to start a P7 Club. Aleyah was also raised in church and was a little shy. She decided to start a club and put it in God’s hands. She had regular attenders at P7, but didn’t feel there was much happening with her friends. The whole time she was teaching P7, what she didn’t realize was this – the teacher sponsor was sitting at her desk, quietly listening to what Aleyah was saying. The teacher was going through a lot in her home life, and Aleyah’s words brought hope. The teachers exact words were this: “If the students at this church are like this….what is the church like?” The teacher came to church a few weeks later, brought her husband, and both of them were baptized in Jesus name. 2 years later, they still faithfully attend an Apostolic service and serve in ministry.

Why? Because a student answered the call of God on their life.

There are countless testimonies of God doing amazing things through a P7 Club. Check out hashtag #P7Works on Instagram and you’ll see tons of awesome testimonies!

**What Are My Rights as a Christian Student?**

[**“Students don’t shed their constitutional rights at the school house gates.” – Tinker v. Des Moines (1969)**](http://www.uscourts.gov/multimedia/podcasts/Landmarks/tinkervdesmoines.aspx)

As a student, you have the right to express your religious faith at school. The Equal Access Act and the Free Exercise Clause both protect the right for you to start a student-led Bible club on your campus.

**WHAT IS THE EAA?**

“The EAA is a federal law that was enacted in 1984 as a response to anti-religious beliefs held by some courts and public school officials.

The Equal Access Act applies to all public secondary schools that receive federal financial assistance and have at least one, student-led club that meets outside of regular class time – and is not directly associated to the school’s official curriculum.” [**Link Here**](http://www.homeword.com/equal-access-students-rights-public-school-campuses-ta-a-1037.html).

Here is a copy of the**Equal Access Act** on the United States Justice Department website:
[**http://www.justice.gov/crt/about/cor/byagency/ed4071.php**](http://www.justice.gov/crt/about/cor/byagency/ed4071.php)

Some schools know of this law but don’t understand it. If your administrators seem concerned or unsure about the law, please either send them to the following page, or print the information there and give it to your school administrator. Click here for the [**School Administrator**](http://p7clubs.com/get-started/school-administrators)page.

A direct quote from this Department of Education document about Equal Access is:

*“Access” refers not only to physical meeting spaces on school premises, but also to recognition and privileges afforded to other groups at the school, including, for example, the right to announce club meetings in the school newspaper, on bulletin boards, or over the public-address system.[1]  Noninstructional time is “time set aside by the school before actual classroom instruction begins or after actual instruction ends,”[2] and covers student meetings that take place before or after school as well as those occurring during lunch, “activity periods,” and other noninstructional periods during the school day.[3]*

**STUDENT’S BILL OF RIGHTS ON A PUBLIC SCHOOL CAMPUS**

1. THE RIGHT to meet with other religious students. The Equal Access Act allows students the freedom to meet on campus for the purpose of discussing religious issues.
2. THE RIGHT to identify your religious beliefs through signs and symbols. Students are free to express their religious beliefs through signs and symbols.
3. THE RIGHT to talk about your religious beliefs on campus. Freedom of speech is a fundamental right mandated in the Constitution and does not exclude the schoolyard.
4. THE RIGHT to distribute religious literature on campus. The Equal Access Act allows students the freedom to meet on campus for the purpose of discussing religious issues.
5. THE RIGHT to pray on campus.  Students may pray alone or with others so long as it does not disrupt school activities or is not forced upon others.
6. THE RIGHT to carry or study your Bible on campus. The Supreme Court has said that only state-directed Bible reading is unconstitutional.
7. 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.
8. THE RIGHT to be exempt.  Students may be exempt from activities and class content that contradict their religious beliefs.
9. 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.
10. 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).

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**HISTORICALLY**

The Supreme Court upheld the Equal Access Act by a vote of 8-1 in Westside Community Schools v. Mergens, June 4, 1990:

*“If a State refused to let religious groups use facilities open to others, then it would demonstrate not neutrality but hostility toward religion. The Establishment Clause does not license government to treat religion and those who teach or practice it…as subversive of American ideals.”*

Read more about this case [**here**](http://www.uscourts.gov/uscourts/educational-resources/get-involved/constitution-activities/first-amendment/freedom-religion.pdf).

Ronald Reagan stated in a radio address, February 25, 1984:

*“Former Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart noted if religious exercises are held to be impermissible activity in schools, religion is placed at an artificial and state-created disadvantage. Permission for such exercises for those who want them is necessary if the schools are truly to be neutral in the matter of religion. And a refusal to permit them is seen not as the realization of state neutrality, but rather as the establishment of a religion of secularism.”*

If you have any questions or concerns or run into any problems with your school administration refusing to meet with you to discuss starting a P7 club, refusing to allow you to start a club, or refusing to allow you equal access to classrooms, PA systems, newspapers, etc., please [**contact us**](http://p7clubs.com/contact-us) and we will help you!

## WHAT DO I DO IN MY P7 MEETINGS

There are many ways in which you can lead your Bible club. Depending on your passion and vision, you may decide to have a prayer-based club, a Bible-study-driven club, a fellowship-focused club, or a community-oriented club. Many have a club that focuses on all of these things. There is no wrong way. Pray about the focus of your club meeting. Below are some ideas and suggestions to get you started. As you discover more ideas, be sure to e-mail us and share them with us so that we can consider adding them to the list!

## 1. LESSONS

There are lessons available for use every semester you have P7 meetings. Lessons will be added regularly for your benefit. You may also create your own lessons.

The lessons available for download are arranged in 7 sections:

1. **Preview** – This is a short description of the lesson for the meeting.
2. **Praise** – This will be an opportunity for everyone to praise God during the lesson.
3. **Parable** – A narrative will be used to lay a foundation for the lesson.
4. **Present** – The heart of the matter is revealed in this portion of the lesson.
5. **Practice** – Practical application of the principles in the lesson will be unveiled in this portion of the lesson.
6. **Pray** – This will be everyone’s opportunity to chat with God about all they've learned in the lesson.
7. **Plus** – At this final point in the lesson, students will receive instructions for additional study and practice of the material in the lesson outside of the P7 meetings.
	* Download the lessons [**here**](http://p7clubs.com/resources/lessons) and begin studying them for your  meetings.
	* Also consider downloading the Ice Breaker Volumes [**here**](http://p7clubs.com/resources/lessons) to use during  your P7 meetings.

## 2. SERVE PROJECTS

SERVE is a movement designed to engage Apostolic students in acts of service and evangelism in their community. The core value of SERVE is based on Matthew 22:39 which says, "Love thy neighbor as thyself." We encourage each P7 Club to consider joining or starting causes in their schools and communities that align with our [**mission and core values.**](http://p7clubs.com/about/mission-and-values)

Consider some of the following causes you can start or join:

1. [**Habitat for Humanity**](http://www.habitat.org/)
2. Adopt a Neighborhood
3. Reading programs at the library, community centers, and/or schools
4. School supplies drive
5. Help for the Homeless Drive
6. [**Feed My Starving Children**](http://www.fmsc.org/)
7. Host a community blood drive

## 3. PRAYER IDEAS

Whether you only occasionally designate your P7 meeting time for prayer or your P7 club is primarily a prayer group, you will find these prayer suggestions helpful:

1. **Pray for Your School Peers** – for their salvation, safety, growth in Christ; that all students would hear the gospel; that they will connect with a local church; for their peace; that they will reflect Christ to the world they live in
2. **Pray for Your School Administrators** – for their salvation and safety; that they will connect with a local church; for their peace; for them to be Christ-like in their leadership
3. **Pray for Your Community** – its families, children, youth, safety, economy; that it would turn to Christ; for peace in homes
4. **Pray for Your Local Churches** – that students will be accepted in the local church; that adults will lay a great example for youth to follow; for their youth ministries and young adult ministries
5. **Pray as You Walk Through the School** – this can be a quiet prayer as you move through the school halls to class and to various activities throughout the day
6. **Pray in Classrooms** – pray silently as you sit in class surrounded by peers
7. [**See You at the Pole**](http://www.syatp.com/) – pray for your school during "See You at the Pole" every September

## 4. CREATIVE OUTREACH IDEAS

As you read the Gospels and the Book of Acts, you will notice how creative Jesus was when reaching for people. He interacted with each person uniquely and individually. You too can significantly impact your school in creative ways.

Consider the following creative ways to reach out:

1. **Casual Conversations** – Everyday casual conversations are a potential opportunity to share Christ with your classmates. It’s possible to fit Christ into a conversation about work, sports, academics, relationships, food, and even social media. It will usually be in the context of a casual conversation that you will have a chance to share Christ. Stay alert, and reach out through casual conversations.
2. **Speeches** – There are many opportunities for you to offer a God-oriented perspective in the classroom. Speech class is the most obvious opportunity. When calling for impromptu speeches, the teacher may allow you to choose the subject. This is a great moment to talk about the most important thing to you: your relationship with Christ. Classroom discussion also frequently gives you a chance to offer input with a Christian perspective.
3. **Papers** – Many papers can be written from a Christian perspective throughout a school year. Students can often choose any topic, or at least, tie in Christianity. Although the Bible is not considered a textbook, it does touch on every subject known to man. Even a class devoted to poetry can allow studies of poetry in the Scriptures. When an assignment is given to write a poem, subjects like Heaven, Jesus, and Christian friends work well.
4. **Unreached People Groups on Campus**– People groups come in all kinds of shapes and sizes on your campus, and every campus has them. These groups are not necessarily cliques, but they are sociologically classified as a culture within the youth culture on campus. Some of these people groups are jocks, cheerleaders, nerds, geeks, skaters, head-bangers, surfers, ropers, hackers, preppies, and neo-hippies. These groups represent students struggling for identity and survival on campus by seeking acceptance by a well-defined group. These students must feel the presence and acceptance of Christian students on campus. Student Meetings – One of the most effective witnesses is moments when nonbelievers see believers meeting together, relating to one another and to God. When possible, have meetings on campus to create this opportunity. Invite your friends, whether believers or non-believers.
5. **Extracurricular Activities** – There are a number of outstanding possibilities for each student who is involved in extracurricular activities. Through most of these activities, there is a real possibility to use your leadership in a way that will really help the cause of Christ. Many campus ministry members are involved in the school newspaper, the yearbook, student government, National Honor Society, chess club, photography club, etc. All are opportunities to reach out!
6. **Jesus Week** – Some schools have had a week-long “blitz” on the campus. Jesus Week may feature several activities including a school assembly, literature distribution, posters, a unique series of P7 meetings in one week, special guest speakers, etc.
7. **Teacher Appreciation Week** – Unfortunately, teachers are seldom in the limelight unless they have failed or are retiring. Student groups can help overcome this deficit by intentionally appreciating teachers. Showing the love of Christ to the teachers is a very effective way to reach out!

## 5. TEACHING TIPS

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

1. Spend time in prayer before you teach.
2. Stay cool under fire. Criticism can be turned to an advantage. Remaining cool allows you to make rational decisions and statements.
3. Mean what you say and say what you mean!
4. Manage your time, or it will manage you!
5. Know your material. You shouldn’t need to read everything word for word!
6. Make respect a central part of your P7 meeting culture. You have to give respect to get respect.
7. Be flexible, because the unexpected occasionally occurs.