



DATE(S)

SERIES AND LESSON TITLE

TAKE-HOME POINT (THP)

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Give any Campus-Specific Announcements

OPENING GAME / GROUP TIME

LARGE-GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY

TikTok Tussle

One video with a countdown/timer! Watch two videos back-to-back from social media and decide which one has the most views. Everyone plays! If you get it right, stay in...if you get it wrong, you're out! The last person standing is the winner!

OPENING SMALL GROUP

QUESTIONS

Take attendance and make sure to welcome anyone who is a first-time guest!

Let's start out first by going around the circle and saying our name, grade, school, and our favorite ice cream flavor!

What was the highlight of your week?

When you're finished (and there's time), pray for our time of worship/singing.

STUFF TO ASK TO UNIQUELY CONNECT THE LESSON TO KIDS' LIVES

ACTIVITIES

STUFF TO DO SO THINGS AREN'T BORING



LARGE-GROUP SCRIPT

THE MESSAGE

Level-Up Message

July 30-31, 2022

What's up, everyone?! This is our first 5th & 6th grade service of a new school year!! We're also here with our life groups. In fact, let's take a moment and thank all of our life group leaders! I am so glad that all of you are here, and I know that we are going to have fun together, laugh together, talk together, and most importantly, I believe we're going to learn a lot together. Learn about ourselves, learn about the other students in our group, learn about our leaders, and I definitely know we will learn about God and what He wants for our life.

We've done something pretty cool the last few years here at our church called "At The Movies." Just by a show of hands, how many of you have been here for our "At The Movies" series? Awesome! First of all, our 5-week At The Movies series starts next week, so you'll want to be here for that! For those of you who haven't been or are new, we try to use illustrations from movies to sometimes reveal a deeper truth about God or the world around us. One of the movies we did a few years ago was Monsters University. Who here has seen that movie?

Monsters University shows how Mike Wazowski and Sully become friends in college, but they didn't start out that way! Mike is constantly picked on for how small he is and how he isn't very scary. Sully, on the other hand, thinks he's the man! He thinks he's the scariest monster ever and he's bound and determined to become the coolest monster on campus. Mike is incredibly annoyed by this and determines right then to show Sully that HE can become the best student in the scaring program. This leads to a LOT of competition over the semester...

(Leaders Note: Show "Monsters University Commitment" Video)

Mike was super committed to becoming scarier and being the best scaring student in the school. Now, I don't want to give the rest of the movie away, but he and Sully learned a lot more about each other, what they needed to improve, and eventually become best buddies! I mean, it's a Disney/Pixar movie so there HAS to be a happy ending, right?!

THE MESSAGE

Here's the bottom line: Mike made a commitment. I want to talk about that word "commitment" today. All of us have the opportunity to make commitments for this upcoming school year. For some of you, commitments will be made about your grades. For others it will be sports...for others of you it will be music, dance, making better friendships, etc. Did you know that you can make commitments in your spiritual life as well? In fact, that's what I would like to talk about today.

Now, every week's message will have something called a **THP**. Some of the 6th graders here already know all about this! **THP** stands for "**Take Home Point**" and the reason every message will have one is so that you can focus on one main idea from the message. If you remember it or memorize it, great! But that's not all I want you do and think about – I want you to think to yourself, "Why was the **Take Home Point** important to the message today?" and "How will the **Take Home Point** help me to live differently in my life?" We don't want you to simply remember a message at Northview Students – we want you to spend time thinking **WHY** you should know and **HOW** it can change the way you live so we can all become more like Jesus. So, here we go! Here's our first **Take Home Point**)

I commit to growing in my faith this school year!

I want us to go to the Bible now because there is a great verse from the Old Testament in Psalm 121:1-2. Let's look at it together: *"I lift up my eyes to the mountains—where does my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth."*

Here's why this verse is important: the only way we can grow in our faith and make spiritual commitments is if we have God's help; this awesome God who loves us and wants to know us! I believe God will help us learn about Him every single week we gather here. In fact, there are 3 specific things we are going to do each week that will help us with our spiritual commitments.

We will learn about God together.

The verse we just read tells us that as a Christian, we recognize that our help comes from God! We don't find it within ourselves. He is the One who gives it to us! So, my request to you is this – come with the attitude and heart to learn. God is going to teach you some very important things. You are going to learn so much from Him, but you have to come **WANTING** to grow and learn from Him. One of the ways to do that is to make a commitment and be here as often as you can for Northview Students! If you're not making a commitment to attend a weekly worship service, you're going to be missing out on some cool things God wants to teach you.

THE MESSAGE

We will build great friendships.

I believe the greatest friends you will ever have will be the ones who are following Christ just like you are. We hope you find those types of friends here because we want you to build community. What's I want to challenge all of you to reach out to new people. Help others feel comfortable. Help new people feel good about this place. Build new friendships. As this place becomes a place of love, we are going to see tons and tons of new students coming. These groups that you are sitting in right now will be the groups that you sit in all year!

We will have fun.

Did you hear that? God wants us to have fun...so we are going to have fun! I believe that life as a Jesus-follower (while hard at times) should be fun! Every time we get together, we are going to have fun. We are going to laugh, play games, watch dumb videos. If you don't like to have fun, we are going to take that as a personal challenge to make sure you have fun!

Honestly, I'm just so excited about starting a new school year with everyone. I hope you are, too. I hope you're excited to learn more about the life Jesus wants to give you. I hope you're excited about coming here and building friendships/community. Be sure to invite some friends to come with you! This is a GREAT place for them to come because some of them may not believe in God, know who Jesus is, or have never even been to church. That's why we want them here! Finally, I hope you're excited about having fun. We are going to have a lot of fun!

Here's the **Take Home Point** one last time – **I commit to growing in my faith this school year.** Think to yourself now as we wrap up this message: what commitment can I make in my faith? Some of you may need to spend some time thinking about what that even means because you've never even considered that question. Others of you struggle with the idea of coming here to church and you're resistant to making ANY kind of commitment.

Wherever you're at, I want you to talk about that today in your life groups. I find that when I open up and become honest about the things going on in my life (good and bad), it lifts off a burden. These students and leaders you're sitting beside – God is going to use these people to help you grow. They're going to be here to support you when life is hard. There's going to be some (maybe even most) of you here who will go through a major challenge this school year. When that happens, who are you going to turn to for help? Please know that we believe turning to God and turning to your friends/community is the most important thing to do when that happens.

Thanks for being here today – let me pray for us and then we'll start our group discussions.



CLOSING GROUP TIME

CLOSING SMALL GROUP

QUESTIONS

*****Leader's Note:** Make sure to have some Bibles for the students to use.

Who can remember the 3 things we do at Northview Students every week?

What was the **THP (Take Home Point)** today and why was that important during the message?

Let's read the verse from the Old Testament we heard during the message: Psalm 121:1-2

"I lift up my eyes to the mountains – where does my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth."

This verse challenges us to always recognize our help always comes from God! Tell us about a situation in your life where you needed God's help.

What is one commitment you can make to grow in your faith this school year?

How will the **THP (Take Home Point)** help you to live differently this week? Be specific.

How can this group pray for you this week?

ACTIVITIES

Encourage your students that we want these life groups to be places of fun, conversation centered around God, and support/encouragement.

*****Set ground rules for the group** – be respectful when someone else is sharing, participate in the worship, listen during the message, be supportive of your group members who are going through a tough time, keeping things said in group confidential, etc.

After your group is finished with your discussion, close in prayer together!



PREP NEEDS

SMALL-GROUP SUPPLIES

Some Bibles for students to share during group discussion
Pen/paper for SOAP study (optional)

LARGE-GROUP SUPPLIES

Stupid Video of the Week
Message script
Message slides

AUDIO/VISUAL NEEDS

Pro Presenter or Playlister

