

PLAYBOOK

A LIFE NIGHT ON
THE STORY OF SCRIPTURE

QUICK GLANCE

ABOUT THIS LIFE NIGHT

The Bible can seem like a vague collection of unrelated texts from different time periods written with different intentions and styles. What unified message can we garner from this collection of books? This Life Night will dive into the overarching story of Scripture as God's redemptive plan to save human beings from sin and bring them to eternal life with him. This Life Night is designed to help teens understand the basic story of the Bible and see themselves as active characters in that story.

MAIN POINTS

1. The Bible tells the story of God's plan to save human beings from sin and bring them to eternal life with him. We call this story salvation history.
2. The basic narrative of salvation history is conveyed through real people such as Adam and Eve, Abraham, Moses, David, and Jesus.
3. God's work in the world did not cease with the last book of the Bible. He continues to invite us into the story of salvation history today, filling our lives with meaning and direction.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 24:25-27 | Romans 15:14 | 2 Timothy 3:16-17

CATECHISM

54-64 | 121-123

KEY TERMS

Salvation History | Scripture

SAINTS

Abraham | David | Moses

RESOURCES

Church Documents

“*Dei Verbum*” 3-4, 14-20

Handout

“Scripture Verses”

Music

Spotify: “LS - Game Day”

Product

“The Bible Timeline Chart for Teens” (ascensionpress.com)

Video

“The Story of the Bible” (bibleproject.com)

GOAL

The goal of this Life Night is to share the basic narrative of salvation history in a way that is attractive to teens, helps them understand they are part of this story, and inspires them to dive into Scripture on their own.

ENVIRONMENT

The walls of the room are decorated with drawn-up plays from a coach's playbook. At the front of the room, a scene reminiscent of someone reading Scripture in their room visually represents the need to dive into God's "playbook." See the Getting Ready section for more detailed setup suggestions.

GATHER

Reels of Redemption

Small groups work together to create a reel based on a given Bible story. This activity enables teens to hear about different events from Scripture and offers a creative way to engage with and present the content.

PROCLAIM

Talk: Playbook

This talk unpacks how the Bible chronicles the great story of salvation history. Utilizing five main characters from Scripture, teens will hear a basic overview of the Bible story. They will come to see that the story of the Bible is their story and be encouraged to play their part in the amazing narrative God continues to write with their lives today.

BREAK

Scripture Study

Teens gather in small groups to pray with and reflect upon a Scripture passage. This activity helps them dive into Scripture and experience how it can be meaningful for them today. The reflection is adapted from supplementary content in the new Life Teen Bible. For more great reflections and other materials to help make the Bible accessible and relevant for teens, order the Life Teen Bible at shop.lifeteen.com.

SEND

Scripture Reflection and Prayer Trios

Teens reflect on a collection of Bible verses and choose one that stands out to them. In groups, teens pray with one another, proclaiming the verses that stuck out to each group member. This activity introduces the teens to praying with Scripture, giving them a chance to apply God's Word to their lives and gain inspiration from it.

NOTES

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

GETTING READY

LIFE NIGHT DATE: _____

FOUR WEEKS BEFORE

- Read through the entire Life Night.
 - Pray with the Scripture and Catechism references.
 - Consult the Resources suggestions.
 - Select a presenter for the Proclaim and contact them this week. Encourage the presenter to begin getting familiar with the flow of the story and drawing activity in the second Main Point of the Proclaim.
 - Send the Proclaim Teaching Guide to the presenter.
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TWO WEEKS BEFORE

- Assign core members to the tasks on the Core Meeting Worksheet.
 - Check in with the Proclaim presenter and ask for an outline and slides, if applicable.
 - Schedule practice time with the presenter if needed.
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ONE WEEK BEFORE

- Distribute the Life Night outline to the core members.
 - Pray with the core members over the Life Night.
 - Review the highlights of the Life Night.
 - Explain the core assignments.
 - Encourage the core members to review the discussion questions and pray for their small group.
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THE WEEK OF THE LIFE NIGHT

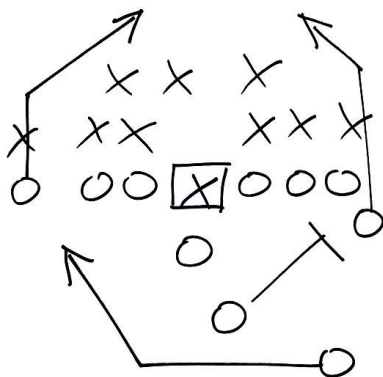
- Advertise the Life Night on the parish youth group's social media channels, encouraging teens to bring their Bibles.
 - Schedule the Parent Letter email as a follow-up to the Life Night.
 - Make a plan for the Life Night Environment using the suggestions below.
 - Gather the supplies needed for the Life Night.
 - Inform core members of their roles during the session and provide them with the required materials and instructions.
 - Pray for the teens who will be present and experience the Life Night.
 - Ensure you have a functioning plan to record and project the videos from the Reels of Redemption activity.
 - Download, print, and make copies of the "Scripture Verses" handout found online at lifeteen.com.
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THE DAY OF THE LIFE NIGHT

- Test all audio-video elements of the Life Night.
 - Decorate the youth room using the Environment instructions below.
 - Project an Environment image found online at lifeteen.com.
 - Play the "LS - Game Day" Spotify playlist as teens gather.
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ENVIRONMENT

Draw up a collection of football plays, similar to the one below, on different pieces of kraft paper or posterboard and hang them around the walls of the room.



At the front of the main space, create a scene primed for diving into Scripture (God’s “playbook”). Place an open Bible and pen on a small bedside or coffee table, along with a candle and a cup of coffee. Pose a comfy chair and blanket next to the table.

Flank the main stage with Life Teen or parish youth group banners.

SUPPLIES

	Phone or other devices to record reels
	T.V. with AirPlay or other means to cast/present reels for the large group
	Bible, one per person
	Whiteboard or large notepad
	Blank piece of paper, one per person
	Writing utensil, one per person
	“Scripture Verses” handout, one per person

LIFE NIGHT PLANNER

SCHEDULE

TO-DO

ROOM LAYOUT

CORE MEETING WORKSHEET

Use this outline for your core team meeting before the Youth Mass. The core meeting follows the Gather-Proclaim-Break-Send structure.

CORE MEETING START TIME: _____

GATHER

- Begin with a brief social time and rapid high points/low points of the week from each core member.
- Pray with your core team and include one of the Scripture passages from the Life Night.

Scripture choice: _____

PROCLAIM

- Review the Life Night outline.
- Assign core members to the tasks for this Life Night and write their names in the Core Assignments chart on the next page.

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BREAK

- Review the Break activity with a core member discussion. Spend about 15 minutes on this section.
- Take questions.

SEND

- Conclude the meeting with a Hail Mary.
- Set up final details for the Life Night.
- Arrive early to the Youth Mass to greet teens as they arrive.

CORE ASSIGNMENTS

Setup	1.	2.	3.
	4.	5.	6.
Check-In	1.	2.	3.
Audio-Video			
Opening Prayer			
Reels of Redemption Judges	1.	2.	
	3.	4.	
Proclaim Presenter			
Closing Prayer			

NOTES

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GATHER

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER 5 min

Gather in the main meeting space and welcome the teens to the Life Night. Introduce any teens or core members attending for the first time, and begin in prayer

REELS OF REDEMPTION 20 min

Gather the teens into small groups. Assign each group a Bible story, using the prompts below as inspiration. Groups must create a 15-second or less reel based on that Bible story. After assigning stories, give groups 10 minutes to create their reel.

When time is up, gather everyone back into the main meeting space. Watch each reel by projecting it on a T.V. Have a panel of core members ready to decide which reel is best and give the winning group a small prize, such as candy.

Sample Bible stories:

- Creation (Genesis 1-2)
- The Fall (Genesis 3)
- The Call of Abraham (Genesis 12)
- The Crossing of the Red Sea (Exodus 14)
- The Giving of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20)
- David and Goliath (1 Samuel 17)
- The Annunciation (Luke 1)
- The Wedding at Cana (John 2)
- Jesus Healing the Paralytic (Mark 2)
- Pentecost (Acts 2)

SUGGESTION

Social media platforms like Instagram and TikTok usually have certain viral sounds or video trends at any given time. Consider assigning each group one of these sounds or trends to incorporate into their reel. If you do not know what is viral at the moment, consult teen leaders or younger core members active on social media.

PROCLAIM

GETTING STARTED

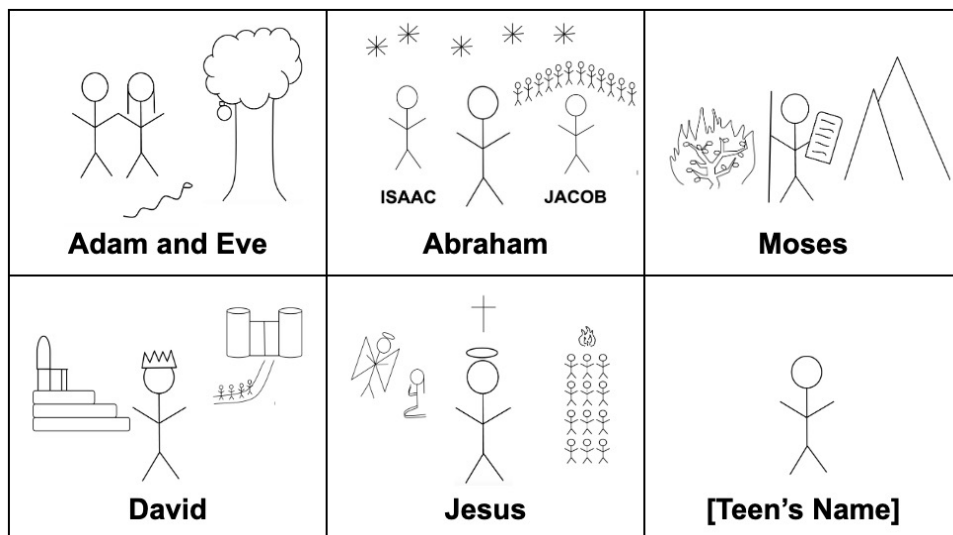
This Teaching Guide is not just an outline; it's a tool to help you craft a powerful and personalized talk that will leave a lasting impact.

The second Main Point of the Proclaim includes an extended drawing illustration for the presenter to walk teens through the story of salvation history. Prior to the Proclaim, give each teen a blank piece of paper and a pen. Ask them to turn the paper landscape and divide the page into six even boxes by drawing one horizontal line across the middle and two vertical lines.

Give the presenter a whiteboard or large notepad to draw on. They should follow the drawing instructions within the Teaching Guide as they present the material. Alternatively, one person could give the Proclaim while another draws. Encourage whoever is giving this Proclaim to become familiar with the flow of the outline so they can easily relay the story, events, and necessary drawing pieces.

The drawings are not intended to be detailed. They should be simple enough that every teen can imitate them. More artistic teens can embellish and enhance their drawings as they desire. See the sample of a complete drawing on the following page

Giving teens the chance to draw in the middle of a talk is a calculated risk. They may get distracted or doodle, but the potential positive outcomes outweigh the risks. The proposed drawing items are intentionally selected to highlight important elements of the story. Drawing them will help teens solidify the material in their minds and give them an easy reference to look back on. As some people are more hands-on learners, the opportunity to draw will help them process what is being said. As an added bonus, when the activity concludes, teens will have a small visual overview of salvation history.



MAIN POINTS

1. The Bible tells the story of God's plan to save human beings from sin and bring them to eternal life with him. We call this story salvation history.
2. The basic narrative of salvation history is conveyed through real people such as Adam and Eve, Abraham, Moses, David, and Jesus.
3. God's work in the world did not cease with the last book of the Bible. He continues to invite us into the story of salvation history today, filling our lives with meaning and direction.

KEY TERMS

Salvation History - The redemptive activity of God within human history. The Bible recounts the story of what God has been doing in the world to enact his saving plan. **(CCC 50-53, 122, 128)**

Scripture - The books that contain the truth of God's Revelation, composed by human authors inspired by the Holy Spirit. Scripture contains the 46 books of the Old Testament and the 27 books of the New Testament. **(CCC 101, 105, 120)**

Main Point 1:

The Bible tells the story of God’s plan to save human beings from sin and bring them to eternal life with him. We call this story salvation history.

Begin by sharing about the most gripping book or movie that you have encountered. Share how the story made you feel invested and left you eager for more.

- If you have ever been engrossed in a great book or movie, you know that the ending can be bittersweet. You’re happy to know the end of the story and to have had the experience of reading or watching, but you’re sad that the journey had to come to an end.
- Some of these stories are so powerful that they make you long for something similar. If you read about a great adventure, you want to go out and have your own. If you encounter a riveting and exciting fantasy world, you might even wish you lived in it.
- As great as all of these stories are, there is one story that overshadows all others: the story of Scripture.
- As humans, we long for meaning and purpose. We want to know the greater whole to which we are connected. Though this desire may fade to the background in the noise and distraction of the day-to-day, when we sit and reflect, we sense it rising again to the surface. We intuit that there is something more — something greater — about life than just ourselves.
- We are part of a great story, and God is the author. The story of Scripture is more than just a collection of events from the past. It is the story of the creation of the world and the human race. It is *our story*.
- This story answers questions about who and what we are. It helps explain why we experience evil and sin, why we seek something greater than ourselves, and how God has been reaching out to the human race.
- Like any good story, the story of Scripture has heroes and villains, triumphs and sorrows, and ordinary and extraordinary moments. Above all, it has a moral and a purpose.
- Though composed of 73 books written by many authors across thousands of years, the Bible tells one cohesive story. You can trace a common thread through the Bible, beginning with the creation of the world in Genesis.
- The tension is introduced right away. Within the first few pages, we learn that God created the world, made man and woman to live in harmony with one another and in relationship with him, and desires to share his life with human beings. However, Adam and Eve freely turned away from him and, in doing so, turned their back on his blessings. This led to the main problem: sin and death.

- Salvation history is the story of what God has done to make this right. It's a wild story filled with great sinners and saints, victories and tragedies.
- The focal point of this story is the life of Jesus. Everything centers on him. The events of the Old Testament prepare for and anticipate him, and the writings and activity of the New Testament unpack his significance and show what it means for us now. **(CCC 102, 128-130)**
- With this understanding of the Bible in mind, let's take a closer look at some of the main characters of the story. They'll help us get a better understanding of the bigger picture.

Main Point 2:

The basic narrative of salvation history is conveyed through real people such as Adam and Eve, Abraham, Moses, David, and Jesus.

- Our story begins with the creation of the world, including the first humans, Adam and Eve. Their story is likely familiar to us.

Write "Adam and Eve" at the bottom of the top left section of the page. Then, draw two stick figures holding hands.

- After God created the world, he made Adam and Eve to dwell in, care for, and appreciate it as his gift. They dwelt in the Garden of Eden and were created to live in a relationship with God. **(Genesis 1-2)**

Draw a tree next to Adam and Eve.

- God told Adam and Eve not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Tempted by the serpent, Adam and Eve severed their relationship by disobeying God's command. This unleashed sin and its effects on the world. **(Genesis 3)**

Draw a piece of fruit on the tree and a snake at Adam and Eve's feet.

- Adam and Eve (and the rest of the human race) would be plagued by sin and subject to death. Created to live in harmony with God and one another, that harmony was replaced by suspicion, jealousy, and frustration.

- This is the problem from which humanity needs saving. We are slaves to sin, and we can't save ourselves. God must intervene.
- At the moment of the Fall, God made a promise that the offspring of the woman would crush the head of the serpent. This promise of victory over the forces of sin and death provides hope in the midst of an otherwise tragic situation. It points to an anticipated fulfillment later in the story. **(Genesis 3:15)**
- Long after the events of Adam and Eve, God called a man named Abraham to step out in faith. God told Abraham to leave his country and kin behind and go to a land that God would show him.

Write "Abraham" at the bottom of the top middle section of the page. Then, draw a man.

- Abraham was faithful to God, and God made a covenant with him. He promised that his descendants would be as numerous as the stars and that they would dwell in the land God promised to him, the Holy Land. Through Abraham and his descendants, God would bless the whole world
(Genesis 12:1-3, Genesis 15)

Draw stars in the sky above Abraham.

- Abraham had a son named Isaac and a grandson named Jacob. The covenant God made with Abraham passed down from generation to generation through these men. **(Genesis 26:3-5, Genesis 28:13-15)**

Draw two smaller stick figures behind Abraham. Write "Isaac" and "Jacob" underneath them.

- Jacob prospered in the Holy Land and had 12 sons. His name was eventually changed to Israel. His sons are the fathers of the 12 tribes of Israel, the chosen people of God.

Draw 12 tiny stick figures in a semicircle above Jacob's head.

- Eventually, a famine struck the land so Jacob and his family moved to Egypt and remained there for many years.
- After a few centuries, the Israelites found themselves as slaves in Egypt. The Egyptian leader, Pharaoh, treated them harshly, and they cried out to God for deliverance. At this point, Moses enters the story. **(Exodus 1-2)**

Write "Moses" at the bottom of the top right section of the page. Then, draw a man.

- Moses encountered God out in the wilderness while he was tending sheep. God appeared to him in the

form of a burning bush that was not consumed. God told Moses to go to Pharaoh and demand that he let his people go. Pharaoh refused. (**Exodus 3**)

To the left of Moses, draw a burning bush.

- God worked powerfully through Moses and his brother, Aaron. He performed many mighty deeds known as the Ten Plagues to convince Pharaoh to let his people go. After the final plague, which was the Passover, Pharaoh conceded and let the Israelites go.

In Moses' hand, nearest the burning bush, draw a staff.

- Moses led the Israelites through the wilderness to Mt. Sinai. There, the whole people entered into a covenant with God, promising to be obedient and serve him. God gave them the Ten Commandments and other laws, including directions for how they should worship him.

To the right of Moses, draw a mountain. In Moses' hand, nearest the mountain, draw a stone tablet.

- Though they had entered into a covenant with him, the Israelites had a hard time being faithful to God. They often worshipped false gods or failed to trust in God.
- After many years of wandering through the wilderness, they eventually entered and conquered the Holy Land. However, they continued to struggle to be faithful to God.
- God's chosen people began as a tribe with Abraham, grew into a nation at the time of Moses, and were eventually established as a kingdom.
- The second king of Israel was David, a man after God's own heart. David had his own struggles, but he loved God with all his heart and repented whenever he sinned.

Write "David" at the bottom of the bottom left section of the page. Then, draw a man with a crown on his head.

- God made a special covenant with David, promising that he would have an heir who would rule on his throne forever over an everlasting kingdom. (**2 Samuel 7:4-16**)

Draw a throne behind David to the left.

- Although God had blessed his people and made this great promise, many of the kings after David led the people into idol worship and sin. Over the years, they were overrun, captured, and exiled by other nations. Yet the promise God made to David served as an anchor of hope in hard times.

Behind David, to the right, draw a line of people being marched away to a large city.

- This Son of David, known as the Messiah, would set things right for God's people. He would lead them out of slavery as Moses had done centuries before. He would show them how to worship God properly and help them be faithful to God. He would rule over God's people, fighting against their enemies and ensuring peace and blessings.
- The prophets fostered this hope for the Messiah and encouraged the people to be faithful to God. In time, some Israelites were able to come back to their land and tried to live out God's commandments. They were anxious for the coming of the long-awaited Messiah.
- Many years later, the Archangel Gabriel appeared to a young woman named Mary. He told her she would give birth to the Messiah, the Son of God and heir of David. **(Luke 1:26-38)**

In the top left of the fifth section, draw a woman kneeling and an angel before her.

- Mary gave birth to Jesus. In his public ministry, he taught, healed, worked miracles, and cast out demons. He spoke about the kingdom of God and the many blessings God has in store for his people.

Write "Jesus" at the bottom of the bottom middle section of the page. Then, draw a man with a halo.

- Jesus was crucified, died, and was buried. His death was the new and definitive Passover that frees us from sin and death.

Draw a cross above Jesus' head.

- Jesus rose from the dead and appeared to his disciples. As he ascended to heaven, he commissioned his apostles to go out to the world, preaching, teaching, and incorporating others into his Church. Guided by the Holy Spirit, they carried out this mission faithfully.

To the right of Jesus, draw twelve tiny men with a flame above them.

Main Point 3:

God's work in the world did not cease with the last book of the Bible. He continues to invite us into the story of salvation history today, filling our lives with meaning and direction.

- This brief overview of salvation history barely scratches the surface of the great story God has been writing since the beginning of the world. Yet it teaches us something vital: the Bible is the beginning of a story, not the end.
- The mission and ministry of Jesus are continued in the Church. Through the ministry of the Church, Jesus invites us into a relationship with him. He calls each of us to become his disciples and members of his chosen people.
- Every time we go to Mass, we relive some of the events from Scripture. More than that, we are called into the plan of salvation that God has been unveiling since the Fall.
- In a world that often lacks meaning and direction, knowing that the story of Scripture is our story points our lives in a definitive direction. We don't have to guess what our lives are about or make up our purpose on our own.
- God is at work in the world and has been throughout history. He is calling us here today to continue his work. The question we need to ponder is: What part do we play in this great drama of life? That's the part we choose.

Tell the teens to write their name at the bottom of the bottom right section of the page and then draw themselves.

- God has a mission for each of us. When we fall in love with him, live as his disciples, and dedicate our lives to him, the gospel ("good news") continues to play out through us. We become characters in the amazing story God has been writing since the dawn of time.
- We need to know and claim this story as our own, and we need to share it with others. This story has the power to transform our lives and the lives of the people around us.
(Going Deeper #1: "The Kerygma")
- However, we can't know how we fit into this story unless we take the time to get to know the author. Scripture is God's Word. Its stories, words, and lessons reveal God's heart to us. It shows us who he is and, in turn, who we are called to be.
- In sports, many coaches have a playbook. The playbook can include collections of plays, notes about the team's philosophy, general strategies, and more. The playbook provides insight into the coach's

mind. We see the way he thinks about the game, how he strategizes to best make use of his players, and what his overall goal is. The playbook helps the players know what their individual roles are and how they participate in the overall success of the team.

- We can think of the Bible, in a sense, as God’s “playbook.” We see his game plan unfolding throughout history. Seeing what he has done in the past informs what we expect him to do in our own lives.
- For instance, knowing that he freed the Israelites from slavery, we can better understand that he wants to free us from slavery to sin and idols. Spending time in God’s playbook helps us come to know who he is, what he is up to in the world, and how we fit in.
- By immersing ourselves in Scripture, we come in contact with God, who is the author of history. As we seek to live in a relationship with him, meeting him in the Scriptures and listening to his word daily, we begin to understand our part in this great story. More than that, we begin to recognize his voice and promptings, allowing him to guide us through life.
- The greatest story ever told is unfolding in our midst. Every day, God adds new pages to this narrative of salvation history. The best author the world has ever known wants to incorporate you into his masterpiece, filling your life with meaning, adventure, and direction. Are you willing to give him the pen?

BREAK

SCRIPTURE STUDY 20 min

Gather the teens into their small groups and give each teen a Bible. Explain that we are able to realize the part God calls us to play in the story of salvation by imagining ourselves in the events of Scripture. This mini Scripture Study is an example of a practice that can help with that.

The core members begin with a brief prayer and then transition into the following activity.

Invite the teens to open to **Mark 4:35-41**. Read the passage aloud. Then, encourage the teens to reflect in silence.

After a few moments, read the passage again. Encourage the teens to continue to listen attentively and ponder what stuck out to them.

After a few more moments of reflection, facilitate a discussion about the passage using the following questions as a guide.

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

1. When the disciples share their fears and terror with Jesus, how does he respond? What action does he take?
2. What does Jesus' response to his disciples teach us about our own fears and struggles? How does his message to them relate still to us today?
3. What are the current "storms" in your life? Do you feel like Jesus is "in the boat" with and near to you right now, or does he seem far away? Do you believe he cares about you and your well-being? Why or why not?

At the end of the discussion, share the following reflection.

It's easy to become blinded by the storms of life that surround us.

Fear, sadness, and anxiety have a way of overwhelming even the strongest, most faithful people at times. It doesn't mean that we are weak or bad, just that we are human.

It's important in these times to lean into your faith and into prayer, trusting that God is not only "in the boat" with you but that he cares about what you care about.

Invite Jesus into your fears and trust that he will act in his perfect timing.

Ask the teens to take some time to share their storms with Jesus in prayer and invite him to silence them in whatever way and timing he desires.

Close the small group time with the following prayer.

Lord Jesus, help me to trust you with everything.

Be with me in my moments of fear and doubt.

Sit with me during my times of anxiety or loneliness.

Silence the storms that surround me so that I can be with you, completely peaceful, learning to trust in the Father's perfect plan for my life.

Amen.

SEND

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION AND PRAYER TRIOS 10 min

Give each teen a copy of the “Scripture Verses” handout. To create a prayerful environment, dim the lights slightly and play instrumental worship music.

Introduce the activity with the following or similar words.

The story of Scripture is our story. It teaches us about God and ourselves, revealing who he is and who we are. The Bible is not some distant narrative from the past; it's the living Word of God that speaks to us and fills our lives with meaning in the present.

As we conclude this Life Night, we'll have an opportunity to pray with Scripture and with one another. Take some time to review the Scripture verses on the handout you were given. Read and reflect on them, and pick one that stands out to you. Spend a moment asking Jesus why this word is striking you and what he wants to communicate to you here and now through it.

Allow a few moments of reflection, inviting the teens to read over the handout and pick a verse that speaks to them right now.

After a few minutes, invite the teens to get into groups of three. One at a time, group members take turns praying with one another. Have groups select which of the three members will go first. The selected member shares which verse stood out to them. One of the remaining two group members begins a prayer by reading the verse aloud; the other then offers a short improvised prayer and closes with a memorized prayer, such as the Hail Mary, Our Father, or Glory Be. Groups repeat this process until all three members have been prayed with.

When all of the groups are finished, close with a Hail Mary, reminding the teens that this prayer comes directly from Scripture.

SUGGESTION

Teens can be wary of praying with one another, most often because they have little experience doing so and fear doing it wrong or saying the wrong thing. Acknowledge these concerns in front of the whole group and encourage the teens to step out in confidence when it's their turn to pray, mentioning that there is not necessarily a right or wrong way to do this.

STEP IT UP

Some teens may be interested in diving deeper into the story of Scripture. Consider purchasing the Bible Timeline Chart for Teens referenced in the Resources section to offer to inquisitive teens.

ANNOUNCEMENTS 5 min

Make announcements for your program, then dismiss the teens.

AFTER THE LIFE NIGHT

Most core members are tired at the end of the session, but be sure to do two things upon the completion of a Life Night.

FIRST, CLEANUP

Try to foster a spirit of teamwork and generosity among your core team. One of the fastest ways to a divided core team is for one or two members to neglect cleanup. No one is done for the night until everyone is done cleaning up. If a core member is not helping clean up, presume goodwill on their part. If it becomes a consistent problem, address it with them rather than letting issues fester.

Be mindful of any relational ministry that may be happening or teens that need to talk. Sometimes, teens can be deeply moved by a Life Night and may need to continue to process with a trusted adult. During cleanup, your team should continue to be available and interruptible for any teens. You never want to shove teens out the door for the sake of cleaning up.

SECOND, EVALUATE

After all the teens have left, appreciate what God has accomplished through the Life Night. Share any praise reports. Identify who or what needs follow-up. Set a timer and invite the group to share in these five categories of the Life Night: Pros, Cons, Questions, Comments, and Concerns. Remind the core team that evaluations are intended to improve the teens' experiences at Life Teen and are not critical judgments of a youth minister's or core member's performance. As you discuss, encourage the core team to consider each of the Life Night movements of Gather, Proclaim, Break, and Send, or pass out/email the evaluation forms. Conclude your time together in prayer and praise to God.

LIFE NIGHT EVALUATION

On a scale of 1-10, how well did this Life Night accomplish the goal we set?

GOAL

The goal of this Life Night is to share the basic narrative of salvation history in a way that is attractive to teens, helps them understand they are part of this story, and inspires them to dive into Scripture on their own.

Did not accomplish

Nailed it

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

What was the strongest aspect of this Life Night?

Gather

Proclaim

Break

Send

Environment

Optional: Please explain further.

What kind of follow-up do we need to do after this Life Night?

What can we improve for future Life Nights? How can we accomplish this?
