



Priority 3

Week 8

Age

Team Building

Relationship Building

Young People

## STARTER



Pick a team building game from the selection or one of your own which you think will cause arguments and disagreements in the group (without it going too far hopefully!) such as one where there are a number of ways to get to do the challenge. It may be that you could video the group doing the game and then show it back to them to help make some of your points below.

## BIBLE



### 1 Corinthians 12.12-27

Give the group tasks to do one-handed. They must hold the other hand behind their backs. Tasks could include things like playing PlayStation or Gameboy one-handed; tying shoelaces; writing a letter and putting it into an envelope; unwrapping a Mars bar and eating it.

All of these are very difficult to do with one hand. Then get them to pair up, and for one person to use their left hand and the other to use their right to attempt the same tasks. It's not quite as easy as one person doing something with two hands, but it is possible!

Read together 1 Corinthians 12v12-27. Discuss with the group:

- ▶ What has this got to do with the church?
- ▶ What part of the body do you feel you are in the church? What part do you think God thinks you are?
- ▶ According to the passage, if you're not there, what happens to the church? Link it to the exercise at the start when they were trying to do things one-handed. What other reasons are there for us to go to church?
- ▶ Does your church act as if every member were an essential part of the body? What do you think could be done better?
- ▶ In a body, all the parts work together and all of them are needed. How do you build the relationships necessary for people to work together

### 2 Timothy 2.14-26

Read the passage together and talk briefly about what they think it means. Help the group to see the context of the passage - people were behaving in a way that was destructive to the aims of the team, and how Paul is instructing Timothy, a young leader, to help him get things right.

Ask the young people to work in pairs or similar to look at verses 20 to 26 and try to re-write them into modern day English as if they were writing to a new Christian pupil at their school, to help them live their lives in a way which others would respect and recognise that they were different.

Give time to let the groups feedback their work, and then discuss with the group about how different they are able to be at school, and what might stop them or make it difficult. This may be quite a hard topic for some, so you may want to give quite a bit of time to this discussion, and then perhaps to pray for individuals afterwards.

## FOCUS



- ▶ This week we begin with third (of five) priorities in the Jesus Shaped People course.
- ▶ For these three weeks we will examine how Jesus didn't work solo - but looked to build a team of people to share in - and eventually - take over, his ministry on earth.

## ACTIVITY



You'll need five matchsticks and a blob of 'blu-tac' or Plasticine for each person. Hand out the matchsticks and blu-tack to everyone and say, 'I want you to work together to build a model of the church.' Most people will pool their resources and start to build the frame of a church building – allow this to happen.

After a few minutes come back together and congratulate them on their building and then show them how each set of matchsticks and blu-tac can be made into a person - one matchstick for the body, two for the legs, two for the arms and blu-tac for the head and to hold it all together. Ask the group to work together again to convert the building into lots of people instead, and as you do talk about the different types of people in your church, and how their differences are important in making up the whole church.

Once you have all your people made up, encourage the young people to think of people in the church, pick up a matchstick person, and pray for the person they are thinking of – they could do this aloud or in their heads.

Encourage or lead prayers for the relationships between people in the church, and in your group and close this time in whatever way is most appropriate to your group. You could use Acts 2 v42-47 to look at the early church putting these relationships into practice.

## APPLY



Think about what prevents people from working well together. Construct a list of personal attributes such as:

- ▶ Wanting to be in charge;
- ▶ Refusing to take responsibility
- ▶ Scared of tackling something new
- ▶ Always doing things without proper preparation
- ▶ Seeking personal credit for everything
- ▶ Lacking personal self esteem
- ▶ Always feeling left out

Write each of these on separate cards. Think about ways in which these things can help or hinder good teamwork, and how to overcome any barriers that need dealing with.

JSP  
SHAPED PEOPLE