



## MINISTRY LEADER GUIDE

### WEEK 3: RESET YOUR CONVERSATIONS

#### Part I: Welcome + Testimony (5 minutes)

#### Part II: Pulse Video (10 minutes)

#### Part III: Ministry Leader Teaching (15-20 minutes)

**Warm Up Activity:** Choose multiple pairs of people to come up to the front two at a time. Instruct them to have a conversation about a specific topic. Each person must pick a side. They should converse for 60 seconds. Ask your group to choose the topics. Here are a few suggestions: pineapple on your pizza, people living on Mars someday, who is the G.O.A.T. of the NBA, what would Jesus be doing if He were on the earth today?

**Video Summary:** *What kind of conversations are we having? In the video we are reminded that growing relationship makes space for intentional spiritual conversations. Relationships don't grow by accident, they grow on purpose. We have to decide to bring up spiritual topics and be bold about adding Jesus to our everyday conversations. Talking about Jesus doesn't just happen; you and I need to take the first step in starting those spiritual conversations. And I believe you can do it!*

#### **Point I: It's time to start.**

*It is up to us to start spiritual conversations. They usually won't just happen.*

*Jesus is calling you to use your voice, one conversation at a time. And no matter what age you are, with the power of the Spirit living inside you, you have been called and equipped to do this.*

*The Holy Spirit will provide opportunities and the words—and we need to be expectant.*

*Conversations can happen anywhere. In-person is preferable, but often it might be over text or online. Ask the students to brainstorm all the places a spiritual conversation might happen (social media, gaming, phone, etc.).*

*Here are a few things to think about:*

- *Be genuine.*

- Listen for the Holy Spirit's voice and leading.
- Take the topic and connect it to a spiritual thought or question.
- Wait and be a good listener.
- Be ready with an answer.

1 Peter 3:15

*"But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect."*

[slide] Peter implores his readers to ALWAYS BE PREPARED. You don't need to know it all, you just have to be ready and alert for the Spirit to speak through you.

- When you don't know, say you don't know. But then find the answer and get back to them within 24 hours.

### **Point II: Spiritual conversation starters.**

- Ask two trusted people to role play these conversation starters while you share them. If done well, this can really engage your group. If not done well, this will also engage your group and it will be talked about for the rest of the year.
- Try to have personal stories ready for some of the conversation starters. Real-life examples make these approaches feel more possible.

[Slide]

1. **Ask about their weekend.** Then talk about your weekend, and share one thing you experienced at your church.
2. **Ask them about their background:** What is your religious background? Any experiences with the church?
3. **Use current events and pop culture** (i.e., something from an awards show, sporting event, a famous person in the news, something they saw on their phone).
4. **What's an important aspect of your family?** Then share a spiritual value of yours.
5. **Ask about annual holiday traditions**—especially during Christmas and Easter.
6. **How do you deal with hard times?** How do you cope? Then share how you manage tough situations. Share about how you pray.
7. **Personal testimony:** Share YOUR story—recent moments where you've seen God tangibly at work in your life.
8. **What's the best thing that's ever happened to you?** Well, for me...
9. **How can I pray for you?** Do you have any prayer requests?
10. **Ask them about their beliefs in the afterlife.**

### **Application/Challenge:**

- Challenge them to pray this prayer daily in the coming week: 'God will you give me the opportunity today to have a spiritual conversation with someone who needs Jesus,' and see what He does.
- In the next seven days, choose from the list of spiritual conversation starters, and ask that question to three people.

We want your community to get more comfortable starting spiritual conversations. Practice on people they trust. It could be their roommate, a relative, a friend from church, a mentor, etc.

**Throughout the Week:** Here are a few additional ideas if it makes sense for your group.

- Read the entire book of 1 Peter.
- Post one of these conversation starter questions in your Instagram stories.
- Post a question as your Facebook status.
- Make a TikTok video using one of the questions, and ask viewers to comment their responses.
- Give them time to role play this during small groups.
- Remind them to use the hashtag #makejesusknown or tag our team @pulse.movement or @nickhallpulse, and we will repost their content!
- Remind them again that at the end of next week they are going to share the Gospel with someone from their KEEP 5 card.