

## ELEVATE: Finishing Well Wrap-Up

### Session #1: Celebrating God's Goodness

**Session Objective:** The objectives for this session are to review and celebrate God's activity this past year, invite students and leaders to self-evaluate their own growth and encourage one another.

**Minimum Prep:** Read through the entire session outline. Prepare an environment where discussion can occur.

- Prepare a copy of the attached self-evaluation and pencil/pen for each student and leader. Note: You can alter the evaluation to add ministry highlights for your group (i.e. retreats, special events, etc.) or delete Elevate curriculum that you didn't use, etc.
- Read through the Leader Preamble and personalize some of your highlights for the year – i.e. mention names of new people who joined your group, faith decisions made, major issues worked through, etc.
- Provide each small group with a large piece of Bristol board/foam board and markers to record how God has elevated their lives this year. Print out and add the Elevate logo if you are able.
- Read through Session #2 – you will need to make and announce plans this week to facilitate the focus of next week.

### Extended Prep:

- Prepare a PowerPoint slide show of pictures from this year in ministry.
- If technology is an issue, you can make some picture collages on foam board and/or invite students to bring their favourite pictures.
- You could also enlarge 8-10 pictures on a color photocopier and attach them to foam board – leaving them around the room as students enter or referring to them in your highlights of the year in the Leader Preamble.
- Prepare a year-end video of highlights from this year in ministry. If your group participated in Blizzard or mission experience, be set to show the video(s).
- Remember that your students made a self addressed envelope at the beginning of the year that included some concepts about God and their own values. This would be a great time to return those letters, and discuss how their values, image of God, etc. has changed this past year!

### Session Outline

**Leader Preamble:** Summer is coming! How many people are excited about the start of summer? I'd like you to find a partner and share one thing that you are looking forward to this summer....go do it. (Bring the group back together and ask for students to share some of the things they are looking forward to this summer).

Besides the warm weather, vacation time, (fill in your own favourites here), I enjoy summer because it's a natural time to look back over all God has done in and through my own life and our ministry together. Thinking back to our first time together last September, I'm amazed at all God has done (insert some of your personalized highlights here...). Since sometimes it's hard to remember all God has done, we're going to spend some time personally reflecting and encouraging one another and God for what He's done.

So, to kick things off, we are going to take a trip down memory lane with some pictures/video...Play Video or Share Pictures Now...

I hope the pictures/video(s) have stirred some memories in you. We're going to head into small group time now to share and reflect some more.

### **Small Group Questions:**

- 1. Thinking back over the school year, can you think of 1 or 2 highlights through our group/ministry or your life?**
- 2. Since sometime it's hard to remember and hard to evaluate how we've grown over a year, we are going to take the next few minutes to look over all the topics we've covered through our group and our theme "Elevate". As you look through the list, ask yourself if God has elevated your growth in each area. (Give 5 minutes or so for students to work through the self-evaluation).**
- 3. After looking back at our theme, "Elevate" and all we've covered, were there any areas where you really grew this year?**
- 4. Were there any areas where you can see that God has elevated growth in others in our group? (Allow opportunity for students to encourage one another).**
- 5. What would you like to thank God for this year? Let's spend some time thanking Him for who He is and what He has done.**

**Small Group Leader Note:** Use the Bristol board/foam board and markers provided by your leader to allow students to record their answers and create a tangible reminder of what God has done in their lives this year.

**Optional Close:** Have each small group present their Bristol board/foam board in 2 minutes. Pray a prayer of thanksgiving after each group presents (remember to pray for your small group leaders too). End this presentation time with a short preview of next week (see Session #2) and worship time.

## Elevate – Self-Evaluation

Take a few minutes to look through the areas we focused on this year. Then, reflect and write down some comments on how you did, how you have grown in that area, what you learned about God, etc.

Focus	Reflect – How did you do? Grow? Learn about God?
<b>Panorama</b> What really mattered this year? Did I love others, love God, live on His purpose this year?	
<b>Elevate Priorities</b> Did I use my time, talents and money to love God, love others and live God's purpose for my life?	
<b>Seek What Is Noble</b> Did I take the road less travelled in the area of sex, dating, media and consumerism?	
<b>Return of the King</b> Thinking about Christmas – anticipating God's action, the Messiah's arrival, His call to reign in the world and my life	
<b>Worship</b> Did I grow as a worshiper this year? Understanding worship and my best connection points to God?	
<b>Living Life At The Highest Level</b> Sermon on the Mount	
<b>Elevating Vision of God</b> How do I see God? Is He grandfather or God Most High? Surfer or Saviour? Hip or holy? Out there or in here?	

<b>Join With What Is Good</b> Did God use me this year to make a difference in this world? How?	

**Leader Note:** Contact Rob McAlpine at [compass@baptist.ca](mailto:compass@baptist.ca) with any thoughts, questions or suggestions.

**Comments and Feedback:**

**Leader Note:** This is your place each week to record significant sharing or growth in the lives of your students for subsequent follow up. You can also use this space to provide feedback on the material. All suggestions are welcome.

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Please see the following handout. You have permission to reproduce these handouts for your group.