



Leader Guide

PROVEN
JOHN 15:8

DEAR HUDDLE LEADER,



Thank you for taking on the challenge of Huddle Leader. God is using you to engage, equip and empower competitors in ways you can't imagine! Each session is designed specifically for athletes or coaches to follow along with his or her Huddle Leader. There are discussion questions, Bible stories, and room for reflection too! Whether at camp or in a Huddle, here are a few tips to effectively lead during the meeting.

Your Partner in Discipleship,
FCA Resources Team

CORE CONCEPTS

Core 1: Connect

John 15:1-7



Truth: He proved His love for us that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. We prove that we are His disciples by connecting to Jesus Christ and remaining in His love.

Core 2: Cultivate

John 15:8-11



Truth: We prove that we are Jesus' disciples by the cultivating the fruit of the spirit in our lives. By connecting to Christ, we grow in Christ-like character by remaining in His love and keeping His commands.

Core 3: Choose

John 15:12-17



Truth: We prove that we are His disciples by choosing to follow Jesus' command to love one another through sacrifice and service. He chose us first so we can produce fruit and make disciples.

Core 4: Commit

John 15:18-27



Truth: When we connect to Christ, cultivate Christ-like character and choose to love others, then we stay committed through the challenges.

LEADING A HUDDLE

WARM-UP

- Pray for your Huddle. Ask God to use your time together to touch the heart of every person. Expect God to challenge and change people.
- Be Prepared. Your preparation can make a huge difference in the group experience. Read the lesson before and be prepared to answer questions.
- Set the Tone. Engage the group in a way that fits your style and temperament. Competitors may feel nervous during the Huddle, so put them at ease when they arrive.
- Share Resources. Make sure each Huddle member has a copy of the handbook and God's Word, either in print or digital. Encourage the group to follow along with the teaching.
- Make it Fun. Before diving into the content there are a few discussion questions to help get the group thinking about the content. Make sure to leave space and time for athletes to contribute. Feel free to ask follow-up questions.

WORKOUT

- Talk it Over. Competitors will hear stories about different people and situations in the Bible and how they lived out the theme in their relationship with God. They will also learn about key points and how to apply biblical truths to their lives and their sport.
- Ask Questions. Ask open-ended or leading questions in addition to the discussion questions outlined in the meeting. Ask questions like:
 - What stood out to you in the verses we just read?"
 - "What real-life experience can you share about this?"
 - "How can you live out this truth in your sport?"
 - "What do you think God is asking you to do?"
- Ask for Help. Don't feel like you need to have all the answers. If a question arises that you don't know the answer to, you can simply respond, "I don't know, but I'll see if I can find an answer."

PROVEN

PROVEN

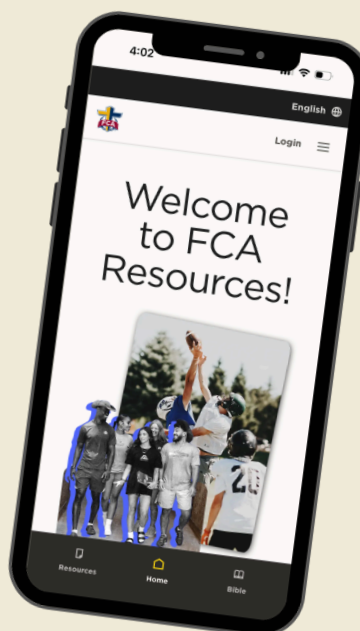


WRAP-UP

- Close with Prayer. Be sensitive that some in your group may be uncomfortable praying out loud, but this can also be a time to help build their confidence. Follow the prayer suggestions or Huddle breaks in the meeting.
- End on Time. Keep an eye on the clock. Be sensitive to time.
- Make Relationships the Goal. At the end of each meeting, athletes will review the key points of the session through discussion questions or an activity. This is a great way to build community and strengthen relationships.

Need More?

Engage your Huddle even when you are not meeting! Download the FCA Web App and share devotionals, engage in Bible reading plans or go through a Bible study together. Go to resources.fca.org!



CORE CONCEPT 1: CONNECT

“REMAIN IN ME, AND I IN YOU. JUST AS A BRANCH IS UNABLE TO PRODUCE FRUIT BY ITSELF UNLESS IT REMAINS ON THE VINE, NEITHER CAN YOU UNLESS YOU REMAIN IN ME.” —JOHN 15:4

We're proven when we understand how God is connected to us.

Objective: Knowing God wants a relationship with us and for us to compete and practice with Him, not just for Him.

Key Points

- God desires intimacy with us.
- We are able to connect, remain and flourish with Christ as God's son or daughter.
- God declares His good pleasure with us based on relationship, not results.
- We are proven by playing with Him, not just for Him.
- While we are wired to perform to please others, we see in Scripture that being with Jesus is enough.
- We need tangible reminders to remember Jesus' presence while we play.

CORE CONCEPT 2: CULTIVATE

“MY FATHER IS GLORIFIED BY THIS: THAT YOU PRODUCE MUCH FRUIT AND PROVE TO BE MY DISCIPLES.” - JOHN 15:8

We're proven by prioritizing spiritual training and by trusting that Jesus is a greater source of joy than sport.

Objective: To cultivate a relationship with God we must have a spiritual training plan. Remaining in Jesus when we compete aligns us with the way God intended sports to work which results in more joy through His presence.

Key Points

- Remaining in Jesus requires a plan.
- Start small. Stay consistent. Slowly add more reps.
- Spiritual growth will happen because it's dependent on God.
- Joy comes from remaining in Jesus and He wants to give us abundant joy.

PROVEN



CORE CONCEPT 3: CHOOSE

“THIS IS MY COMMAND: LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU.” - JOHN 15:12-13



We're proven by who we love and how we love.

Objective: Who we choose to love and a why we love them proves Jesus is in our lives. Sacrificially loving others is proof of who we serve.

Key Points

- Jesus says multiple times to love one another.
- It makes most sense to love those who we see everyday – family, teammates, etc..
- We must also love those who go unnoticed – officials, janitors, managers, administrators.
- Agape love is sacrificial and unconditional love.

CORE CONCEPT 4: COMMIT

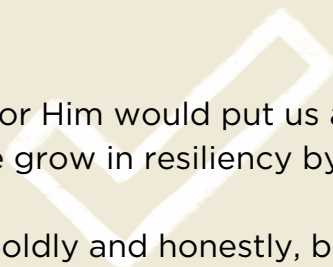
“IF YOU WERE OF THE WORLD, THE WORLD WOULD LOVE YOU AS ITS OWN. HOWEVER, BECAUSE YOU ARE NOT OF THE WORLD, BUT I HAVE CHOSEN YOU OUT OF IT, THE WORLD HATES YOU.” - JOHN 15:19

We're proven through being resilient in the face of hardship and by learning about God's Spirit and listening to Him.

Objective: We will face adversity as followers of Jesus and just like Jesus we need to commit to running to the Father. One of the biggest blessings of being connected to God is the gift of the Holy Spirit who offers everything we need to grow, thrive and persevere.

Key Points:

- Jesus promised that our love for Him would put us at odds with much of the world.
- When we go through trials, we grow in resiliency by following Jesus' lead and going straight to God in prayer.
- God gives us freedom to ask boldly and honestly, but with a desire for His will to be done.
- When you surrender your life to Jesus, the Holy Spirit comes to dwell in you.
- The Spirit's job is to help us look more like Jesus. We just need to acknowledge His presence in our lives and follow His lead.





Download a copy at
fcaproven.org

Purchase a copy on
fcagear.com/theme-handbooks



PROVEN
JOHN 15:8



**FELLOWSHIP OF
CHRISTIAN
ATHLETES**