

# THE REASON FOR IT ALL

## EDGE STARTUP NIGHT THREE

### SCRIPTURE

John 3:16

### CCC

430

599

654

### YouCat

70

72

### KEY TERMS

Jesus Christ

Tradition

Heaven

### SUPPLIES NEEDED

- Relay race questions
- Eucharist Adoration supplies

### MEDIA

#### SUGGESTIONS

- Song: "How He Loves" by David Crowder Band (*All This for A King - The Essential Collection*, Sparrow)
- Song: "Christ is Risen" by Matt Maher (*Alive Again*, Provident)
- Song: "Mighty to Save" by Hillsong United (*Mighty to Save*, Hillsong United)

### EDGE NIGHT GOAL

The goal of this night is to help the youth understand the importance of knowing Christ, His love for them, and how Edge can help them grow in this relationship.

### EDGE NIGHT AT A GLANCE

The Edge Night begins with a fun relay race where the youth will be challenged to answer questions about Jesus Christ. There will then be a teaching about the love of Christ, the importance of knowing and following Him, and how Edge can be a tool to help the youth do that. There is a brief time for small group discussion, and the night ends with Eucharistic Adoration.

### ENVIRONMENT

Put up different pictures of Jesus Christ, or project them on a screen in a slide show. Try to use a variety of photos or paintings that depict different parts of Jesus' life and ministry.

### CORE TEAM FORMATION

This night is an introductory night to the basics of the love of Christ and how a personal relationship with Him is at the center of all we do.

While it may seem very basic, it is also a good time for you to reflect on who Christ is in your life and how your Catholic faith has formed you.

Take some time to read and reflect on John 3:16 as well as CCC 430 and 599. Think about the reality of who Christ is not just for these youth but for you personally. Here are some questions to reflect on:

- What is my prayer life like?
- Do I fully live out my Catholic faith?
- Do I truly believe that Jesus died for my sins and loves me?
- Do I truly believe that Jesus is the only way to heaven and that the Catholic Church

was given by Christ to show us this way to heaven?

- Do I participate regularly in the Sacraments, specifically the Eucharist and Reconciliation?
- Is my life a positive example to the youth I am serving?

## TO THE PARENTS

Tonight your child learned about the love of Christ and the importance of knowing and following Him. They were also given some concrete tools of how to start living out their faith, including coming to Edge every week to learn more and make good friends.

- Here are some questions to ask your child this week.
- Why did Jesus die for you?
- Why is it important to know Jesus and love Him?
- What are some ways that you can learn more about your faith?

# GATHER

## WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

(5 min)

Welcome all the youth to the Edge Night. Introduce anyone present for the first time, and recognize any birthdays. Give a brief introduction to the night, and begin in prayer.

## “WHAT DO YOU KNOW?”

### RELAY RACE

(15 min)

Break the youth into their small groups. Have them line up at one end of the room while their Core Member stands on the other side of the room across from their group. Instruct the youth that they must run to their Core Member and correctly answer one of the questions.

Once they correctly answer the question, they must then run back to their small group and the next youth will do the same. If the youth cannot answer one question correctly, they may get a chance at a different question.

There are ten questions. (If you have more than ten youth in your small groups you will need to make more.) The following are just suggestions of questions you can ask the youth. Feel free to change them or adapt them in difficulty as you see fit.

1. Who is Jesus' mom? (Mary)
2. Who is Jesus' foster father and Mary's husband? (St. Joseph)
3. Jesus was born and placed in a...? (Manger)
4. How many wise men were at Jesus' birth? (Three)
5. True or False: Jesus is a part of the Trinity? (True)
6. How many disciples did Jesus have? (12)
7. True or False: Jesus walked on water? (True)
8. True or False: Jesus was able to heal people and raise them from the dead? (True)
9. Jesus was nailed to a...? (Cross)
10. True or False: Jesus died for your sins so that you could be with Him forever in heaven? (True)

# PROCLAIM

## “THE REASON FOR IT ALL” TEACHING

(5 min)

The teaching for this proclaim can be found on pages 40-42.

Here are the summary points:

- All of the things we hear about Jesus are more than just stories. They are very important to our lives in showing us who God is and how much He loves us.
- Knowing Jesus is a big deal. When we follow Him, we live truly happy lives on the path to heaven.

- Edge is a great place for us to learn more about Jesus, to grow in relationship with Him, and to make good friends to journey with us.

# BREAK

## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

*(15 min)*

Break the youth into their small groups, begin in prayer, and discuss the following questions.

- What is your favorite story from the life of Jesus? Is there one you heard a lot when you were a kid?
- Do you learn a lot about Jesus at home? At school?
- What are your general feelings about Mass and the other Sacraments? Do you go to them freely or only when your parents make you? Do you think this will ever change?
- Was there anything from the talk that did not make sense? Was there anything you had never heard before?
- What are some ways you are already learning about Jesus and your faith?
- What are you most excited for about Edge?

# SEND

## ADORATION EXPLANATION

*(5 min)*

Gather all of the youth back into the large group and briefly explain to them what Adoration is. Explain to them the true presence of Jesus in the Eucharist and how Adoration is a way for us to spend time with Jesus in prayer. Depending on your youth, they may be very comfortable with this or very confused, so be sure to be very simple yet thorough in your explanation.

## ADORATION TESTIMONY

*(5 min)*

After the brief explanation of Adoration, invite a Core Member to give a brief testimony about an experience with God in Adoration. Make sure to

hear the testimony before the night to ensure it is something the youth will be able to understand.

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

*(10 min)*

Lead the youth into a brief time of Adoration. Encourage them to spread out and not sit next to someone who will distract them. Also make sure that they know what appropriate behavior looks like during Adoration. Have the Core Members sit amongst the youth to be examples. If possible have your music minister present to play some music during Adoration.

## SHARING AND CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(10 min)*

After Adoration, ask a few of the youth to share about something they learned tonight or what their experience was like during Adoration. After a few youth have shared, give any announcements and close the night with a short prayer.

## FURTHER ADAPTATIONS

- If you are unable to do Eucharistic Adoration, take your youth into the church or the Adoration chapel for some prayer time.

# THE REASON FOR IT ALL

## TEACHING

### KEY WORD DEFINITIONS

**Jesus Christ** - The Son of God, who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered crucifixion and death, rose from the dead and ascended into heaven, and will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead. "Jesus," which means "God saves" in Hebrew; "Christ" is a title which means "anointed".

**Tradition** - The message of the Gospel handed down in the Church from the Apostles and the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Both the living Tradition and the written Scriptures reveal who God is through Jesus Christ.

**Heaven** - Eternal life with God; communion of life and love with the Trinity and all the blessed. Heaven is the state of supreme and definitive happiness, the goal of the deepest longings of humanity.

### MORE THAN STORIES

We all have heard the name Jesus Christ before. For many of us we have spent our whole lives hearing about this man from our parents, our teachers, and at Church. We hear stories of the miraculous things He did during His life such as healing people who were sick, raising people from the dead, and turning water into wine at a wedding.

We have also probably heard many times about His Death and Resurrection. We learn that there was a man, who was also God, who was condemned to death unjustly, who carried a cross up the side of a mountain, and was nailed to that cross and died. Then during Easter we celebrate that Jesus conquered death, rose from the dead, and opened for us the way to heaven.

But my question to you is, do you know this man? Have you ever spoken to Him? Have you realized yet how much He loves you individually? Have you realized that He did all of this for you?

What we hear about Jesus at church or from our parents is so much more than just stories. They show us who God is, and how much He loves us.

**KEY WORD**  
*Mark 2:1-12*  
*John 11:38-44*  
*John 2:1-11*

*Luke 23:13-25*  
*John 19:17*  
*Mark 15:33-39*  
*Luke 24:1-12*  
**KEY WORD**

*John 3:16*

## WHY DOES IT MATTER?

You may be thinking, “Why is this guy such a big deal?” or “This Jesus thing is for my parents. I am too young.” But the reality is that you are not too young, and this whole Jesus thing is a big deal!

Allow the youth to raise their hands in response to these questions. How many of you want to be happy? How many of you want to be loved? How many of you do not want to be lonely? How many of you want a best friend? How many of you want to know that no matter what happens in life, everything is going to be okay? How many of you do not want to live life in fear? How many of you want to go to heaven?

It may be hard to believe, but Jesus is the answer to all of these questions. If you get to know Him and follow Him, you will be happier than you could ever imagine. He will be your best friend, never leave your side, and be with you through all the good and bad times in your life. When you have Him with you and you know His love, there is no reason to fear anything. He will set you free from all your fear and fill you with joy.

**John 10:10**

Jesus gives us everything that we need to live a good and happy life through the Catholic Church. If you get to know and love Jesus and follow what He teaches you through the Church, He promises that you will be truly happy and make it to heaven!

## HOW DO WE DO THIS?

**Jeremiah 29:11**

This whole following Jesus thing may seem a bit far-fetched to you, or it may be something you have heard a lot in your life. But the bottom line is that now is the time to dive into your faith, open your heart to Jesus Christ, and get to know Him more. He has a great adventure and wonderful plans in store for your life.

**Key Word**

You may be wondering how you are to do this. There are many ways to get to know Christ and learn to follow Him. We learn about Him from our families, through what we learn at church, through the Sacraments, for some of you at school, and we can also get to know Jesus by praying. But another new and exciting way for you to get to know Jesus is by coming to Edge. Each and every week we will learn more and more about Jesus and all the things that He revealed to us through the Scriptures and our Catholic Traditions.

Not only will you learn about your faith at Edge, but you will also make friends to journey with you. God never intended for us to do this journey by ourselves. We are a part of a community and a family. Here at Edge we are a family, and this is a safe place for you to make friends and find people who will help you in your faith.

So as we begin this new step at our parish and this new journey together as an Edge family, I challenge you not to just show up, but to enter into all the activities and prayers we will be doing at Edge. God has incredible things in store for you at Edge and throughout your entire life. Do not be afraid to dive into this new adventure!