

SELF-AWARENESS

OBJECTIVE: to get to know the students, to explain what the Relig program is and to introduce some of the topics that you will be covering in the weeks to come.

I. Begin by giving out appropriate forms (which will be given out by your center) and have students fill them out. (always a good idea to walk around and make sure students are understanding the forms.)

II. After everyone is finished, introduce yourself and say some very general things about yourself and may be talk about your involvement in the Relig Program. (at some point write your telephone number on the board)

III. **RITUAL** -- A very important part of your class, a ritual can help set the tone of the class. Begin by lighting a candle--or having a student light the candle--introduce the idea that the candle symbolizes the light of Jesus and that his presence is important in the class and in your life. Then, say a short prayer- in your own words-- Jesus, help make our class a good one... etc.

IV. Explain the procedure that each week there will be a collection for the needy and that each student should give if they can--mention the fact that 15 cents a days amounts to a one dollar donation. Then choose a volunteer that will collect the money each week.

V. Read Announcements.

VI. Then you may want to introduce the **GROUND RULES** in whatever style or approach you deem positive. Here are some things to keep in mind:

1. once you are in the class, you must remain.
2. everyone in class should respect each others' opinions and views.
3. One person speaks at a time.
4. Everything discussed in class that is of personal nature should remain in the class.
Introduce the idea of being confidential with other students' thoughts and feelings.
5. Students should make every effort to make it here on time.
6. If students are consistently disruptive, they will be asked to leave the class.
7. Add any rule that you think is fair and necessary.

TEACHER OPTION: if the class seems mature, you may want to have the class create their own guidelines (keeping in mind what you think is necessary.)

VII. Then briefly describe Relig in your own terms.(trips, activities, classes, sports, retreats.)

VII. Now it's time to further hear from the students. Ask the students to introduce themselves and to choose a rock star or T.V. star that they admire or that reminds them of themselves and explain why.

After each class member has shared with the class his/her name and TV star, introduce the concept of how important it is to listen to one another and ask the class if anyone remembers everyone's name and their respective music/tv star. Ask for volunteers or call on people.

NOTE: if you have a small class, after asking what best represents them, ask them another question that will reveal something of themselves. Ask them what piece of fruit best represents them or whatever question you think is appropriate. Then each member must go around and try to recall everyone's favorite TV star/film star, etc.. .

WRAP UP: wrap up with the idea that it is important to listen to one another as well as express yourself. Use whatever reading or song that would best illustrate this point. Also, mention to class the you are looking forward to a good year and invite them to bring friends.