NUTS AND BOLTS TRY THIS ONE: DISCUSSION STARTER

Here's a fun way to divide large groups into smaller discussion groups.

Collect enough nuts and bolts so that you have one nut and bolt for every two people. Choose several different-sized sets of nuts and bolts, and make sure you have four or five sets of each size. Mix all the nuts and bolts, and when teenagers arrive, give each person either a nut or a bolt.

Have young people introduce themselves to each other as they try to find the match to their nuts or bolts. When they find a match, they'll continue to look for others who have the same size nuts or bolts as they do. Everyone continues to mingle until all the small groups have found all their members. Then ask the groups to discuss the following: How does finding similarities with each other make our group stronger? What are the nuts and bolts of our youth ministry? After a few minutes of discussion, ask: What are the nuts and bolts of your faith? How are the essentials that make up our youth ministry related to the essentials that make up our faith? What can we do together to strengthen our faith that we can't do alone?

Let teenagers keep their nuts and bolts as reminders of the importance of our connection to each other.

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