



Connecting with the “Checking Things Out Kid”

Description

Checking Things Out kids are willing and open to engage in spiritual conversations and visiting places where these conversations happen. They recognize something may be missing and are open to possibilities of answers. That’s why they are open to checking it out.

Goal with the Checking Things Out Kid

Our goals with Checking Things Out kids are to build relationships with them, care for their needs, and introduce them to Jesus.

According to Jonathan McKee, many of these students are just looking to a place to belong and feel accepted. We can and do provide these places where students can connect, build meaningful relationships, talk about relevant issues, and engage in spiritual conversations.

How would they describe themselves?

They may not say that they are checking things out but that they are interested in God. They like being at church. Something is different. They would “like to know more about this.”

Special Notes about Checking Things Out Kids

Checking Things Out kids are most open to hearing about Jesus. For some of us, this freaks us out. We aren’t sure how to talk about Jesus. Here’s my “talking about Jesus” in a nutshell method. I call it: Ask, Listen, and Teach. Here’s how it goes:

- Ask questions: What do you think about RSC(church)? Anything that we’ve talked about lately really stands out to you? So, what do you think about Jesus and God?
- Listen to their response: DON’T CRITICIZE, CONDEMN, or POINT OUT WRONG THEOLOGY- JUST LISTEN.
- Ask the question: do you want to know about how I became a Jesus follower? (Most of the time, the answer is YES.)
- Tell them what your journey to following Jesus like. When did you understand what Jesus did for you? What happened? What changed?
- Invite: would you like to make that decision to follow Jesus?

- If they say no, just continue to build a caring relationship with them.
- If they say yes, invite them to make that decision with God- praying to him committing to follow him!
 - o CELEBRATE- they just made a decision to follow Jesus!
 - o INVITE to go through our Resource for New followers of Jesus: First 10 steps to Following Jesus. It's short and super helpful. We have plenty and can print off more in house!

How to connect with Checking Things Out Kids

We may meet several at RSC or at church. First, get to know them by building a relationship. Ask great questions and care genuinely for them. As you are having conversations and sense they are checking things out, be open to more conversations with them about this.