

# First Connections with Class Participants

This document presents the importance of the first connection with all class participants, including details for the Core Leader and the NextGen Leader.

## First Connections with All Participants

- Connections with all participants prior to the first class meeting lay the foundation for supportive, caring relationships.
  - o Pray before making a contact.
  - o Contact a participant several days before the first class.
  - o Share excitement for the new study.
  - o Express enthusiasm for greeting them at the first class.
  - o Answer questions.

### First Connections with Adult Participants by the Core Leader

- Receives a Core Group list prior to the beginning of class.
- Calls every adult participant.
  - o Leave a message so a participant can return the call if he or she does not answer.
  - o Send an email or text if the participant does not return the call.
- Shares and confirms the following information:
  - Name and contact information
  - o Book the class will be studying
  - o Date of first class
  - o Timing of class meetings
  - o Address for host church or facility
  - o Parking information
- Engages participant in conversation with questions.
  - o Is this your first year in CBS? If yes, how did you hear about the CBS class?
  - o What are you looking forward to in our study of \_\_\_\_\_?
  - o Do you have any questions about our CBS class?
- Keeps notes of pertinent information to get to know the participant.
  - o Recorded notes are confidential and useful in future conversations.
  - Core Group participant information sheets printed from FISHER can be useful tools for notes.
    The Coordinator can provide copies.
- Notifies Coordinator if the participant is not able to attend.

#### First Connections with NextGen (Nested) Participants by the NextGen Leader.

- Receives a class list prior to the beginning of class.
- Contacts the parent/guardian via phone call, text, or email.
- Shares and confirms the following information:
  - Name and contact information
  - o Date of first class

- o Timing of class meetings
- o Location of classroom
- o Class schedule details
- Gives parent/guardian the opportunity to ask questions.
- Keeps notes of pertinent information to get to know the child or youth.
  - o Recorded notes are confidential and useful in future conversations.
- Notifies NextGen Director and Coordinator if child or youth is not able to attend.

## First Connections with NextGen (Stand Alone) Participants by the NextGen Leader

- Receives a Core Group list prior to the beginning of class.
- Asks parent/guardian for permission to contact the minor.
- Shares and confirms the following information with the parent/guardian or the youth.
  - o Name and contact information
  - o Book the class will be studying
  - o Date of first class
  - o Timing of class meetings
  - Address of host church or facility
- Engages the youth in conversation with questions:
  - o Is this your first year in CBS?
    - If yes, how did you hear about CBS?
    - If no, what have you enjoyed most about CBS in the past?
  - o Do you have any questions about our CBS class?
- Keeps notes of pertinent information to get to know the youth.
  - o Recorded notes are confidential and useful in future conversations.
- Notifies Coordinator if youth is not able to attend.