

How to Have a Connection Meeting

Why do we want to Connect?

Thousands of new students come to our school each year wanting to connect with a group that will help them make friends and grow. We want to help them. The goal of Connection Meetings is to meet with new students, hear each other's stories, discuss why Christian Fellowship is important, and share how they can get involved with the BSM.

Who do we have Connection Meetings with?

Believers and Non-believers

Anyone you've met from:

Bible Study; Free Meals; Outreach events; Summer Orientations; Mutual Friends; and Personal Contact

Anyone we've connected with through:

Orientations; Interest Cards; Surveys

When do we connect?

Try to follow-up within **one or two days** from when you've made initial contact with them. Set up an appointment within a week.

How does this work?

These meetings can take place at a coffee shop, restaurant, somewhere on campus, etc.

These meetings can last about 15-30 minutes.

1. **You can set an appointment by phone call.**
2. **If they don't answer, leave a voicemail.**
3. **Then, shoot a follow-up text.**

Bible Study/Outreach/Personal Contact Follow up:

"Hi _____, how are you? My name is _____. It was nice meeting you at _____ (event). We make it a goal to connect with everyone who visits. Do you have some time to meet up on campus sometime this week and I can share with you how to get connected? ... Thanks! I look forward to meeting you and will text you to remind you soon!"

Orientation/Interest Cards

"Hi _____, how are you? My name is _____ and I am with the BSM. You gave us your contact info at _____ (orientation/or another event). We make it a goal to connect with all of our student we've created a contact with. I'd be more than happy to discuss that with you how you can get involved with the BSM. Do you have some time to meet on campus this week? Does _____ (suggest date and time) work for you? ... Thanks! I look forward to meeting you and will text you to remind you soon!"

***** Take a Campus Connection Card (with the gospel illustration in it) with you to the Connection Meeting.**

DURING The Connection Meeting

KNOW these 4 parts of the Connection meeting:

The purpose of the first half is to get to know one another. This doesn't need to be too formal or rigid, but let them know you want to connect with them and let them know how they could get involved with the BSM.

1. CONNECT with friends.

Get to know one another. Discuss what you are studying, how long you've been a student, etc.

Share your story about your experience at BSM and how it's helped you grow in your faith.

Say "This card describes why Christian fellowship is important, and how you can get involved with the BSM."

2. CONNECT with God.

Ask them about their spiritual background. If their relationship with God is unclear, go through the Campus Connection Card with them and use the bridge illustration (image shown to the right) to share the Gospel with them.

The purpose of the second half is to help them see why Christian fellowship is important and what the BSM has to offer.

3. CONNECT with Christian Fellowship.

Say something like, "Christian fellowship has been so important and has impacted me so much during my experience in college..."

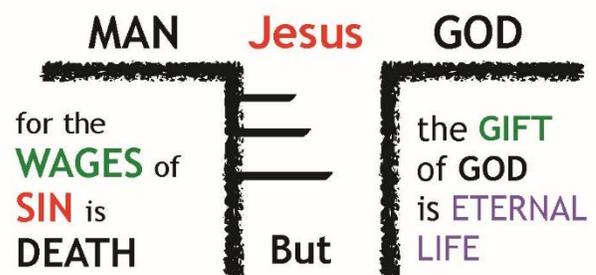
SHARE these four verses with them:

1. Proverbs 13:20 You become like those you hang around
2. Hebrews 10:25 You need a spiritual family while in college
3. 1Corinthians 12:18 and 1 Peter 4:10 You have something to give/contribute

4. CONNECT with the BSM.

Say something like, "There are a number of ways you can get involved in the BSM. This card talks about our events." (talk about weekly meetings)

What is the GOSPEL?



- * Our sin separates us from God (Rom 3:23)
- * Jesus lived & died as a substitute for us (2 Cor 5:21 and Rom 5:8)
- We can experience true freedom (Rom 8:2) by
 - turning away from our sin
 - admitting our need for Jesus
 - asking for his forgiveness

Are you READY to experience this?

At the end of the meeting: Thank them for meeting with you, and let them know that they can call/text for any questions and how you look forward to seeing them again soon. Make it a goal to shoot them a text before a few events within the following week.

Helpful Tips!

- 1) **Have fun!** These students are brand new to the BSM. Smile, be hospitable and confident.
- 2) **Take a friend!** It's healthy for the new student to meet and connect with more than just you.
- 3) **Make lots of appointments!** There are more of them than there are of us