



Ask. Explore. Discover.

A First Introduction, Vision in Brief

The following is one way you might introduce *SomeTime* to your students. This guide has in mind the first leader meeting of the semester (even if you don't start *SomeTime* until after the first six weeks of school/Fall Retreat), or a campus time at Christmas Conference (especially if you intend to start *SomeTime* in the first few weeks of school after winter break). It's intended to very briefly inform your students, introduce *SomeTime*, and cast a little vision for it.

As you prepare to introduce *SomeTime*, think about your leaders. Consider their motivations for leadership. What kinds of things have you seen them extra motivated by and especially sacrifice for? Also, where do you want to take them and how do you want them to grow? What kinds of attitudes and motivations do you want to nurture in them as followers of Christ? And how might *SomeTime* connect with both your leaders' motivations and your desires for them? Consider discussing some of these questions as a team. This will help you lead and connect with your students in the way you introduce *SomeTime*.

Introducing *SomeTime*—An Example:

This semester we plan on participating in an initiative called "SomeTime", which we are hopeful that you and those you lead will find rewarding. But before I get into the details, I'd like to begin with a short story...

Having received a fellowship to Magdalen College at Oxford, a young atheist quietly wrestled with the meaning of life. As he would state in his journal:

"Christianity, if false, is of no importance, and, if true, of infinite importance. The one thing it cannot be is moderately important."

In his days on campus he made significant relationships with Christians who indelibly influenced his life and thought. Writing in a letter to a close friend he remarked, "[I] had a long satisfying talk" with two Christian friends... "I learned a lot." His spiritual journey continued for several years until C.S. Lewis, with the help of his two friends, Hugo Dyson and J.R.R. Tolkien, would finally become a follower of Christ.

"In the Trinity Term of 1929 I gave in, and admitted that God was God, and knelt and prayed... The hardness of God is kinder than the softness of men, and His compulsion is our liberation."¹

¹ *The Powerful Percent*, cru.org

C.S. Lewis' two friends, Hugo Dyson & J.R.R. Tolkien, engaged in Lewis' spiritual journey. They connected with him where he was at. They cojournd with him.

Today, you are Hugo Dyson.

Today, you are J.R.R. Tolkien...for your friends.

We realize that, for some of us, it can feel overwhelming and scary to think about engaging with our friends spiritually. Perhaps we don't know where to start; or perhaps it feels too risky. So, later this semester, as a movement, we are going to embark on an initiative that will help us be spiritual explorers & cojourners with our friends. As leaders in this movement, we will come alongside our Bible studies, teams, and disciples to take those first couple of steps to cojourn with friends.

Hand out the article: *SomeTime—An Overview & Guide*

(Provide time for students to read. The article can be found at: www.cru.org/sometime)

Simply stated, *SomeTime* involves asking friends: “*Sometime, I'd like to hear about your spiritual journey...Would you be up for that?*” And during that conversation (or a later one), asking if you can meet to hear their story.

What are your initial thoughts on this?

(Discuss)

We plan on focusing on this more later, but for now we simply wanted to give you a heads up.

C.S. Lewis would go on to write more than 30 books, and become one of the most influential Christians of the century, touching millions through his writings.

Your friends, no matter how famous, are no less significant.

And your impact, as a cojourner in the lives of your friends, is no less important.

“From one man He made every nation of mankind, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and He marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their dwelling place. God did this so that they would seek Him and perhaps feel their way toward Him and find Him...”

Acts 17:26-27