



PURPOSE

Disciples are made when Jesus's name is lifted up, the Holy Spirit stirs in the hearts of students, and the Word of God is clearly and boldly presented. The purpose of DNOW is to present the Word of God, build gospel-centered relationships, point students to the local church, and present the good news of Jesus as clearly as possible. This is one of the most impactful weekend in the lives of students, because every year it serves as a milestone in the lives of many, whether they surrender their lives to Jesus for the first time, decide to obey him by getting baptized, or return to him by getting serious about their relationship with Jesus.

OBJECTIVE #1

To present the Word of God in an honest, and relevant way... One major goal of DNOW is discipleship. Our staff and guest speakers spend hours preparing for students to walk into this weekend hearing the Word of God and being challenged and discipled by it. We will engage in several large-group and small-group worship settings where trained leaders and speakers will be presenting God's Word in a relevant way.

OBJECTIVE #2

To build gospel-centered relationships... Another huge takeaway from the weekend is the relationship aspect of DNOW. The Small Group Leader that comes to live with your students for the weekend is not just coming to teach, but to build gospel-centered relationships. Students will be spending time making memories, having fun, and pouring over God's word in order to grow closer to God, but also to grow closer to each other. Hosts and Co-Hosts play a huge role in this too.

OBJECTIVE #3

To point students to the local church... We believe that the church is the hope of the nations, and by connecting to a local church, discipleship continues longer than just one weekend. We work hard to facilitate groups and worship experiences that students can be proud to bring their friends to, but at the end of the day, we hope to build up disciples that find Jesus worth it enough to connect in to his Bride, the church.

OBJECTIVE #4

To present the gospel as clearly as possible... We do not assume that every student coming to DNOW is a Christian seeking to be discipled. It is our goal to present the gospel as clearly as possible at DNOW through words and actions, so that if a student joins us without a relationship with Jesus, they have an opportunity to accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

RESPONSIBILITIES FOR DISCIPLE NOW HOSTS, CO-HOSTS, and LEADERS

Host Home Responsibilities:

1. Host families are primarily responsible for opening their home for some 8 to 12 middle or high school students and a college/20-something Small Group Leader from Friday night to Sunday morning as a safe, warm environment. Friday dinner, Saturday dinner, and Sunday breakfast are served at the church. And if you receive a Co-Host, they will provide your home with breakfast and lunch Saturday and help with transportation. (You may help recruit your own Co-Host; in fact, that is encouraged! Each Host and Co-Host, however, is responsible to fill out an application, be a BHBC member, and have a current background check on file.)
2. Following the schedule will be very important to the weekend! Sessions, free time, meals, and lights out will vary. But the biggest thing is that you make sure your house is on time to scheduled events at the church as well as recreation. Rec this year will be held off-campus at Adventure Air Sports in Kennesaw, under T.J. Maxx on Barrett Parkway. Middle School will check-in at 9:30 AM on Saturday and be done at 11:00 AM. High School will check-in at 10:30 AM and be done at 12:00 PM.
3. We understand that students' lives are busier than ever. Many students will have games, tournaments, appointments, even prom this weekend. Students are permitted to leave ONLY IF they have a "Time Away" card filled out and signed by a parent. (Those are available Thursday night at the kickoff dinner.) If you have students that drive, cars at the home will be allowed ONLY IF a student turns his or her keys into the host family, and they must leave a "Time Away" card which must be cleared and signed by a parent. Students are not to drive to and from church for the weekend activities. If there is no "Time Away" card, the student's car must stay at the church. (We also ask that you don't leave their keys in a place that they can see them.)
4. We understand that students use their phones for Bibles and note-taking. While it is impossible to prohibit cell phone usage during the weekend, we do ask that it stays at a minimum. We also ask you to not provide the password to your home wifi. While cell phones are the primary contact for parents to be linked to their kids that are staying in strangers' houses, we realize that all home networks are not protected the same. As a ministry, we want to make sure that individual parents can follow their family protocol on limiting and tracking their student's data and cell phone usage.
5. If there is a discipline problem, please call Matt Petty at 678-910-5771 or Chip Paul at 770-344-9427. You don't have to deal with that on your own.
6. Select an area of your home large enough to provide a good teaching-setting that is quiet and able to host about 10. This is where your Small Group Leader will be leading the sessions. Please sit away from the students in the small-group sessions. Be sure and check with your Small Group Leader to see if they want to use you in any way for the weekend.
7. Be sensitive to the needs of the students during the weekend. It is also possible that there may be a student in your home that does not want to be there or who has been separated from a friend. God will use you as much as anyone to minister to their needs, both spiritual and physical.
8. Please be sure to work out a system for the use of the bathroom. This may mean getting the students up earlier in the morning or maybe showering the night before.
9. You are certainly not required to provide snacks for your guests, but you are welcome to. Keep in mind that you and your Co-Host can work this out, but also that students bring snacks to share and a two-liter.
10. It is good to sit together as a family during the large-group times. This would include the Thursday night kickoff dinner, Friday night dinner and worship, Saturday night dinner and worship, and Sunday morning services. This year, though, we are opening the café for overflow seating during the large-group worship sessions just in case. We may also use you to help with decision counseling Saturday night.
- 11. If at any point in the weekend a student discloses any physical or sexual abuse or harm, you are required by law to inform a RADIATE staff member IMMEDIATELY. You may contact Matt at 678-910-5771, Chip at 770-344-9427, or Katie at 678-294-6153.**

Co-Host Responsibilities:

1. Provide breakfast and lunch on Saturday for your home. You are welcome to work out snacks with your Host, but remember students will bring their own to share and a two-liter. You may choose to just stop off on the way home from rec at a fast food restaurant but please know that not all students will have the funds to pay. If that is your plan, please let the group know that you have it covered.
2. Coordinate with the Host to provide transportation from Friday night worship, to and from recreation on Saturday morning (see #3), to and from church for dinner and worship on Saturday night, and also to church on Sunday morning (please see schedule). You do not have to stay at the home the whole time, but feel free to spend time with your Host and students.
3. This year, recreation will be held off-campus at Adventure Air Sports in Kennesaw, under T.J. Maxx on Barrett Parkway. Middle School will check-in at 9:30 AM on Saturday and be done at 11:00 AM. High School will check-in at 10:30 AM and be done at 12:00 PM. *Please make arrangements with your host to drop-off and pick-up on time.* (You are welcome to stay and hang out if you'd rather not drive all the way back home!)
4. We would also like to encourage the Co-Hosts to attend the large-group worship and sit with their host family. This would include the Thursday night kickoff dinner, Friday night dinner and worship, Saturday night dinner and worship, and Sunday morning services.
5. ***If at any point in the weekend a student discloses any physical or sexual abuse or harm, you are required by law to inform a RADIATE staff member IMMEDIATELY. You may contact Matt at 678-910-5771, Chip at 770-344-9427, or Katie at 678-294-6153.***

Leader Responsibilities:

1. Create and facilitate gospel-centered, appropriate relationships with students. You are stepping into these students' lives as a spiritual mentor for the weekend. You are also going to want to keep an eye out for those that don't necessarily mesh with the group or seem disconnected. Do your best to connect students to one another, building friendships, and don't be afraid to ask students about a decision they make.
2. Attend a mandatory leader training meeting Friday, March 23rd, at 4:00 PM in the RADIATE café (upstairs in the back hallway at BHBC). If you are unable to attend or will be late, please email khill@burnthickory.com.
3. Lead 5 small-group sessions in the host homes. Curriculum will be sent the week before, including three sessions written by our student staff, one session that you will be responsible to prepare for on your own, and a talk-back session after the Saturday night large-group worship.
4. Participate in recreation with your students Saturday morning. This year, rec will be off campus, at Adventure Air Sports in Kennesaw. Middle School will check-in at 9:30 AM on Saturday and be done at 11:00 AM. High School will check-in at 10:30 AM and be done at 12:00 PM. Please help us out by getting students there on time, and you are welcome to jump with them!
5. If a student in your group makes a salvation or baptism decision, students will need to call their parents BY Saturday night for permission to participate in a special baptism service Sunday morning. We will contact you with who made decisions, and please let a RADIATE staff person know your baptism decisions before Sunday morning. You can check out our decision guide here: www.bhradiate.com/decision-form/
6. ***If at any point in the weekend a student discloses any physical or sexual abuse or harm, you are required by law to inform a RADIATE staff member IMMEDIATELY. You may contact Matt at 678-910-5771, Chip at 770-344-9427, or Katie at 678-294-6153.***