Chi Alpha
Campus Ministries

101

CHI ALPHA ESSENTIALS DISCOVERY
Session 1: Introduction & History Sharing
Session 2: Our Vision, Mission, & Ministry
Session 3: Faith Foundations - The “Why”
Session 4: Faith Foundations - Christ’s Work & Discipleship
Session 5: Faith Foundations - Our Opportunity
I. EXPECTATIONS

Have you ever seen a movie and left feeling disappointed? When you first saw the trailer of the film it looked amazing! In fact, the trailer went video viral and everyone was on the bandwagon. However, at the conclusion of the film you were left thinking, “Is that it?” Or maybe you thought, “The book was so much better than the movie.” Many of us have left restaurants, parks, classes, and even church experiences feeling that we were missing something. We all come to new things with expectations. So what are your expectations for Chi Alpha 101?

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Over the next several weeks our expectations are that you will be challenged and discipled more deeply in your faith. Further, we hope you will discover you can be an influencer in your family, in your church, and on your campus. It is our expectation that God will use these 5 sessions to develop you by maturing your faith and by increasing your Biblical knowledge and heart for discipleship. We also believe you’ll gain a greater understanding of God’s mission to your campus through Chi Alpha.
I. LOOKING BACKWARD - Your Story

Before we can look forward to who Chi Alpha is and what we can be, it's important to think about who each of us as individuals are. The seeds for the present were planted in the past. So what's your story? Briefly, describe your testimony. How did you come to know Jesus?

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And now, what exactly brought you to Chi Alpha, and why have you stayed?

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II. LOOKING BACKWARD - Our Story

Vision - “a clear mental picture of what could be, fueled by a passion that it should be”  ~ Andy Stanley

Every organization has a vision. It begins with a single leader with ambition or can be a group hoping to create something new. In 1953 a group of people saw what “could be” for college students and began Chi Alpha at our first campus in Springfield, MO. Since then we’ve grown to almost 300 campuses nationally.

Our vision is what drives our organization to both exist and succeed. So let’s look at two key scriptures that shape our vision and made us who we are today:

Acts 2:42-47
42 They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching & to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread & to prayer. 43 Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders & miraculous signs were done by the apostles. 44 All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45 Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. 46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

2 Corinthians 5:14-20
14 For Christ’s love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. 15 And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. 16 So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! 18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: 19 that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. 20 We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God.

Chi Alpha 5 Fold Ministry Approach
We seek to introduce fellow college students to an authentic relationship with Jesus through:

- **Prayer** - Communication with God.
- **Worship** - Expressions of thanks through word, music, and service
- **Fellowship** - Students developing quality & healthy relationships.
- **Discipleship** - Learning about Jesus & following His example.
- **Mission** - Living a life that reflects our relationship with God in what we say and do.
Philosophy of Ministry

Community:

One of the key ingredients to Acts 2 is the concept of Community. The early church truly “came together in unity” around the power of Christ’s work in their lives and with a passion to share that work.

There are a lot of student organizations, however, not all organizations foster true community. Some groups encourage unhealthy lifestyles &/or decisions. Some campus organizations start as volunteering communities and turn into party communities full of unhealthy peer pressure and drama. Others truly build character, scholarship, and make a difference on campus.

In the same way, there are corporations or even families that offer toxic forms of community. Others create healthy communities where members use their gifts and talents to work toward a common goal or purpose. Google has recently been praised for the kind of work environment and community culture that they foster and design with things like flex time, independence to work on creative projects, and the list goes on.

So what kind of community should our Chi Alpha be? What should we be known for?

What are key ingredients for community?

1. _______________________________________
2. _______________________________________
3. _______________________________________
4. _______________________________________

OUR GOAL: We desire and strive to be a Spirit-filled community committed to the discipleship and influence of our campus and its culture. We will be led by God and His Spirit to disciple others holistically into a healthy Christian life.
Our Chi Alpha community is shaped by both our national and local vision and mission statements.

I. NATIONAL VISION

Vision Statement
We are a Spirit-empowered, diverse community of believers on university campuses, declaring in word and lifestyle our faith in Jesus Christ, equipped to fulfill our purpose in God's global plan.

Mission Statement
We reconcile students to Christ, transforming the university, the marketplace, and the world.

5 Fold Ministry Approach

- Prayer
- Worship
- Fellowship
- Discipleship
- Mission

II. LOCAL VISION

Our Group’s Vision Statement

Mission Statement
We connect students to God, each other, & the world.
THINK STEPS - Our Ministry Process

Traditionally people have tended to view Christianity and even spiritual community with a “you’re either in or you’re out” mentality. In Chi Alpha we believe our spiritual life and even student involvement in our group is a process of growth. We try to keep this in mind from the first time we meet a student all the way through their graduation.

CONNECT
environments & opportunities to make authentic connections with people in order to connect them to God and to Chi Alpha. (i.e. Contact Tables, NSO)

PLUG
environments & opportunities that allow students to connect to God in basic and meaningful ways. (i.e. The Plug)

NETWORK
environments & opportunities that help students develop healthy friendships and relationships. (i.e. parties, Fall Retreat)

DOWNLOAD
environments & opportunities that help students grow in faith through Bible study, one on one discipleship, and teaching. (i.e. Life Groups, XA 101/102, Leader Training)

UPLOAD
environments & opportunities to be involved in God’s local, campus, and global mission. (i.e. Student Leaders, REACHmissions)
What We Believe

When you are trying to get to know a guy or girl, the relationship usually starts off on a surface level. As you really get to know what they believe, their history, their motivations, and go deeper into their life, then you can make a better decision about where the relationship is going.

Similarly in XA, you need to know what we believe to understand what drives us to do everything we do.

The Most Beautiful Love Story

Imago Dei – __________________ __________

“26 Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.” ~ Gen 1:26

Why does it matter that we’re created in God’s image?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

How are we like Him?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
Faith Foundations - Why?

Two chief reasons for creation of man:
1) __________________________
2) __________________________

How do we love God?
1) __________________________
   Is. 43:21, 1 Peter 2:9, Col 1:16, Gen 3:8
2) __________________________
   Gen 2:15, Ex 20:4, John 21:17, 14:15.
   ***God is ____________________ - Ex 4:11,
      1Chr 29:11, Jn 3:27, Deut 8:18, 1 Sam 2:6-7
3) __________________________
   Surprising way to love God. Gen 2:18, Ex. 20,
   Matt. 5:23, Matt. 22:36-40

The Image is Broken - Genesis 3

We were made in perfection to love God and others perfectly, then something went horribly wrong with humanity. Like a mirror that shatters, this act and its after effects would alter our view and experience of everything and every person on this planet.

What did this action bring to God's creation?

- ___________ - Rom 5:12, James 4:17.
- _______________ or _____________________ -
  Gen 3, Ex 20:4, 7.
- ____________________ - Rom. 5:12, Rom. 6:23.
THE FALL

When Adam and Eve sinned, it became known as The Fall. That fall affected everything.

A. __________________________________________ -
   Rom 5:12, Gen. 6:3

B. __________________________________________ -
   2 Cor 10:5, Phil 4:8

C. __________________________________________ -
   Jer. 17:9-10, Prov 4:23, Rom 3:10-12

D. __________________________________________ -
   Gen. 3:7-11

E. __________________________________________ -
   Gen. 3:17-19

F. Our relationship with ________________________ -
   Gen 3:8, Is 53:6, Jn 3:19-20

G. Our relationship with ________________________ -
   Gen 3: 12-17, Gen 4: 2-18

A Major Shift in Focus

We started asking _________________ ________________
_____________ before asking _________________ ______
_________________________ ________________ ?
GOD’S RESPONSE

The Fall of Man didn’t catch God without a plan. He began working His plan immediately and continued throughout both the Old and New Testaments.

God’s Short Term Plan

- Covenant with Abram – Genesis 12-14
- Jacob or Israel – Genesis 25-49
- Joseph – Genesis 30-50
- Moses – Exodus through Deuteronomy
  - Israel as an Example
- King David – 1 Samuel – 1 Kings, 1 Chronicles
- Prophets
- 400 year gap

God’s Long Term Plan

15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.” ~ Gen. 3:15

From the beginning God saw the redemption of man through Christ. After the Old Testament ends with 400 years of silence, we enter the gospel accounts and we soon find a man named John, John the Baptist.

“2 as it is written in Isaiah the prophet: ‘I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way” —3 “a voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.’”

4 And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” ~ Mark 1:2-4

Session Three
Treating Symptoms Rather Than the Disease

In medicine, sometimes doctors can only treat the symptoms of illness. This happens with viruses like the flu. However, as a general rule, symptomatic treatment can be dangerous because it can hide the root cause of the disease allowing it to strengthen and delaying the crucial treatment a patient needs.

The Old Testament system of redemption dealt with some of the symptoms of sin but it didn’t treat the root cause: the fallen and sinful nature of mankind. God was incredibly serious about the problem of sin and the fall of mankind. He had established a plan and system for redemption, restoration, and how to live for Him through His law, the nation of Israel, and a culture of priesthood and sacrifice.

But this was only the beginning of His ultimate plan. He planned to go straight to the heart of the problem.

The Most Famous Passage in Scripture

“16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.” ~ John 3:16&17

What does this passage let you know about how God has always viewed mankind? What is His master plan for redemption and salvation?
Christ’s Sacrifice

In the New Testament, Paul goes on to give us more detail on the full nature of God’s plan in Christ.

“Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, 2 because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. 3 For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, 4 in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.” ~ Romans 3:1-4

God was willing to pay the ultimate price to set us free from sin and ourselves.

The Work of Christ

The work of Christ chiefly consisted of two elements:

1) __________________________________________

__________________________________________

__________________________________________

2) __________________________________________

__________________________________________

__________________________________________

Session Four
Where Discipleship Begins

When you hear the word “discipleship”, you might picture a Sunday School class, a small group, a Bible Study program you did where you memorized a lot of scripture, or any number of things. The people living at the time of Christ had a very specific understanding of discipleship. They knew it would require a deep commitment from them and it would change their lives.

Discipleship starts as something very personal. Before Jesus calls us to anything else, He first calls us to Himself.

“18 As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. 19 “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.” 20 At once they left their nets and followed him. 21 Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, 22 and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.”

~ Matthew 4:18-22

Jesus’ Method is Very Personal & Intentional

“13 Jesus went up on a mountainside and called to him those he wanted, and they came to him. 14 He appointed twelve that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach 15 and to have authority to drive out demons.”

~ Mark 3:13-15

What do you think it means to be “with” Christ?

__________________________________________
In the New Testament, Jesus’ followers were called “disciples.” In Jewish culture, a disciple was a person who followed a Rabbi (a Spiritual teacher). It was the followers’ aim to learn all that the rabbi knew and to imitate his actions. In Jesus’ last moments on this earth, He challenges his disciples to “go and make disciples”. In our culture it seems almost arrogant to suggest that one should follow or imitate me. Besides, how can we speak for God? That logic is crippling our society. We have a whole generation of parents, teachers, and even pastors afraid to correct and disciple in fear of being considered a hypocrite or arrogant.

To be a disciple maker puts responsibility on us to rely on God for wise choices and wise advice. Live up to your potential in Him: a Disciple Maker.”
-As taken from “Discipleship by Design” Harvey Herman

A modern word for Disciple might be:

Where Discipleship Continues

“18 Then Jesus came to them and said, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.’ “
~ Matthew 18:18-20

“2 And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.”
~ 2 Tim. 2:2

Jesus & Paul knew the importance of

_________________________________ Ministry.

We desire to follow the model Jesus gave to his followers, Paul gave to Timothy, that Moses set for Joshua, and that God has been establishing and continuing throughout time.

NOTES:
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____________________________________
How This Looks in XA

In XA, the love of God for our world, the work of Christ’s salvation, Christ’s call to follow Him, and His call to go and make other disciples affects practically everything we do.

What are some of the things we do in Chi Alpha that help students know about the work of Jesus and help them grow in Him?

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________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

What are some of the things we do to help students go and make disciples?

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________________________________________________________________________________
NOW WHAT

D’day was one of the most important and defining moments in all of history. Much of the western world was embroiled in World War II. Then, Allied Troops accomplished a massive victory on the shores of Normandy Beach. Western civilization cautiously rejoiced because they knew that the victory on the beach at Normandy meant ultimate victory against the Axis powers in Europe.

That beachhead into Europe would lead to the retaking of all of Europe in WWII, but victory was not fully realized until 10 months later with V’day or Victory in Europe Day. Most people don’t know that during the time between D’day and V’day more soldiers died than all the years before D’day.

Oscar Culman makes the analogy that Christ’s death and resurrection is the D’day or the “beachhead” of God’s kingdom being reclaimed on Earth, and that the V’day of all of humanity will be when Christ comes back for us. We live in the time in-between, knowing the final outcome of victory and seeing glimpses of hope and finality, but in the reality of a present world that is still far from perfect.

This tension between the “already and not yet” is why we pray “your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven” (Matt 6:10). We are still fighting to see all people come into God’s kingdom to be saved on the day of victory.

How do you see this principle at work in your life or the world?

NOTES:

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Session Five
Our Opportunity

How Should We Live?

_________________________________________________________________________ vs
_________________________________________________________________________

To what do we have access because of Jesus’ death & resurrection?
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_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________

Glimpses of Heaven: 1 Cor 15:55-57

We have become a Priesthood of Believers!

“5 you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.” ~ 1 Peter 2:5 & 9

Why do you think we still need “Priests” around?

_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
The Act’s Life

_________________________________________ (Acts 1:8)

+ ________________________________________ (Acts 2:1-4)

NOTES:

“7 But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. 8 This is why it says: “When he ascended on high, he took many captives and gave gifts to his people.”

11 So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, 12 to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. 14 Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. 15 Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. 16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.”

~ Eph. 4:7-8, 11-16
According to this passage what did Jesus leave behind?

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________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Why did Jesus do this?

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So who did Jesus choose to use to show His love and to bring eternal hope?

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CONCLUSION

We believe that during the in between time of Christ’s Resurrection and His Second Coming, before He restores the world and brings His Kingdom, He invites you and me to work with Him. If you are a follower of Christ, He has given you gifts you can use right now to serve Him and bring others to Him.

We want to help you find your place in the body of Christ and gain a greater understanding of your place in God’s mission to your campus through Chi Alpha.