

Beyond REC

Lay Director

Talk #10

Sunday

Length of Talk: **15 Minutes**

PURPOSE:

Beyond REC introduces the residents to the remainder of their lives considered to be their "Fourth Day." The talk will explain the benefits received from attending the weekend plus the things that **help** and the things that **hurt** REC. The speaker will emphasize sensitivity to those not attending and the importance of attending the monthly reunions.

OUTLINE:

I. We have emphasized there are three days to an REC weekend but now we will tell you really it's four.

1. Today is the first day of the rest of your life and this is considered your fourth day.
 - a. The last three days have been ideal and it has been our privilege to be an instrument of our Lord. (The entire atmosphere is of Christian community)
 - b. Residents and team members have given of ourselves and God has richly blessed us.
 - c. We feel a new sense of joy, hope and inclusion into a new family with feelings and concerns similar to ours.
2. How can we persevere in the Christian life? (**Definition: continuing in the face of difficulty and opposition**)
 - a. We must continue being steadfast in purpose, grow daily in our Bible study and prayer life.
 - b. God's grace is abundant and does not stop when this weekend winds down.

II. People may not want to listen about REC and if they listen they may not understand your experience this weekend. (There are obstacles to the 4th day)

1. The problems you left on Friday will be there when you return tonight.
 - a. Talk to God about them and allow Him to help you through each one.
 - b. Pray and study with your new friends and for added support come to the REC monthly gatherings.
2. The fourth day will show how the last three days have influenced your life and walk with the Lord.
 - a. The most meaningful thanks the team receives is observing residents living their fourth days victoriously.
 - b. The team cannot enter the other areas of the compound but all REC residents can share the Lord throughout the complex. (**Work, play rest, recreation, etc.**)

III. Your actions can help by having others want to attend REC or turn them away hurting REC. (Review each now)

1. Helping REC:
 - Encourage you friends to sign up for a REC weekend.
 - Pray for future walks, teams and reunions.
 - Attend study groups, come to reunions and bring a friend.
 - Request to serve on as an alumni on a future REC Walk and be gracious if you are not chosen by the Chaplain.
 - Volunteer to help the Chaplain anywhere possible.
 - Be gracious to the chaplain if you are not chosen as an alumni next year. Help the new pilgrims and REC team by praying, encouraging others and in any way possible give support.
2. Hurting REC:
 - Emphasizing only the fun things of REC: posters, skits chapel visits and not talking about the spiritual. (**May create false REC image**)
 - Breaking the confidence of what happen in table discussion or what is overheard in chapel visits.
 - Telling future participants the surprises that occur during the weekend. (**They won't be surprises**)
 - Forming cliques. The REC is to be shared with others through peace, love and joy found on the weekend.
3. REC is an experience difficult to put into words but share Christ's love and concern for His children.
 - a. You may tell others what you personally received from the weekend, encourage them to attend don't try to explain the individual parts of the walk.
 - b. The REC walk is special but does not make us more important than a resident not attending. God loves everyone and wants their hearts.

Welcome to the REC Family!!