



YFC CANADA'S SUMMER INSTITUTE 2018 PRE-ASSIGNMENTS



TO PREPARE:

Please complete the following assignments prior to arrival and bring the completed assignments with you to SI.

This will place you in a position to contribute well and gain the most benefit from your SI experience!

1. ASK PEOPLE TO PRAY FOR YOU

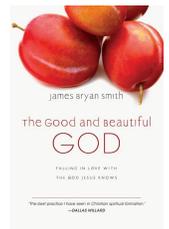
SI involves long days. Your learning experience and the well-being of your community during this time away are important to us and we would like to ensure that people who know and care about you are praying effectively. Accordingly we ask two things of you:

- Ask at least 2 people to pray for you (and if it applies-your family) while you are at SI...prayer for your health, your energy level as the days are intense, and for a rich learning experience.
- Please send the names and *email contact information* to Joel Martin at joel.martin@yfccanada.org so that he can prepare your prayer partners before the event with prayer items and so that he can send them regular updates during SI. **Please send these to Joel by Friday, May 4th .**

2. READ *THE GOOD AND BEAUTIFUL GOD* by James Bryan Smith (InterVarsity Press, 2009).

Note that ebook and audiobooks are available as well should you prefer those mediums.

- This book needs to be read with thoughtful reflection, so please don't leave it until the last minute.
- Find a journal or notebook to answer the questions sprinkled throughout each chapter.
- Read each chapter thoroughly, taking time to digest the material.
- Complete the weekly exercises and make time to complete your written reflections.
- Come to SI prepared to listen, share, and encourage one another in small groups.



3. WATCH THE *ISSUE: ANXIETY VIDEO* by Lifeteams and view the anxiety helpsheet that accompanies the video.

- Video link: <http://www.lifeteams.ca/anxiety-helping-ease-the-strain/>
- After watching the video reflect on the following questions:
 - Are there any young people you know who may be suffering from anxiety?
 - How prevalent do you think this problem is among young people?
 - Have you used any of the responses listed in the anxiety helpsheet for a young person you suspect is anxious?
 - Is there anything not listed on the helpsheet that you have tried and has been effective?



4. WATCH WHAT IS AN IDEAL TEAM PLAYER? video by Patrick Lencioni on RightNow Media @ Work

- a. Sign into RightNow Media @ Work to access the video. In the Search section at the top left-hand side of the website type "Ideal Team Player". Under the Series section of the results select The Ideal Team Player series. Under the Sessions section to the right of the series description select the first session called "What Is An Ideal Team Player?".
- (You will need to use your @yfccanada.org email address to sign into RNM@W. If you are not sure whether you have an account or have trouble signing in, contact your Regional Training Coordinator for assistance.)
- b. Complete the attached Ideal Team Player Self-Assessment.
- c. After completing the Assessment answer the following questions:
- What qualities do you consider indispensable in a team member? Why are they important to you?
 - Have you had previous experience with a difficult or struggling teammate? Which of the three virtues were absent? How did it affect team morale as a result?

rightnow MEDIA@WORK



5. VIDEO Record a short video story about your faith journey with Christ. We're using video software that makes the whole process easy and flexible for you. Below are some tips and attached you will find the document "How to Share Your Testimony".

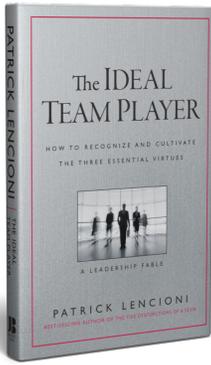
Video Tips:

- Have fun and Ask God to guide your story
- Imagine you are talking directly to a young person as you record.
- If you don't have your story memorized you may want to take a minute to write out what you want to share.
- Make sure you have good light so we can see your face clearly.
- Make sure there is no background noise so your audio is clean.

To get started click start: <https://app.storytap.com/18/signup?ref=yfcstaffstory2018>

WE EAGERLY ANTICIPATE YOUR PARTICIPATION AT SI! BLESSINGS ON YOU AS YOU PREPARE!



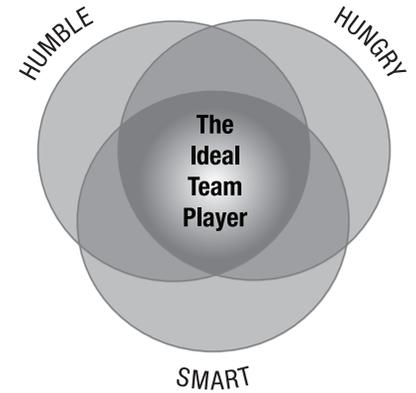


SELF-ASSESSMENT

Instructions: Take this assessment to evaluate yourself relative to the three virtues of an ideal team player. Respond as honestly as possible, as this will allow you to most accurately identify any areas of development that you may have.

Use the scale below to indicate how each statement applies to how you think your teammates may see you and your actions on the team. Choose the rating response number that best applies to each statement and record it in the box to the right of the statement. Then total your scores for each of the three virtues.

Rating Scale: 3 = Usually 2 = Sometimes 1 = Rarely



Name/Company _____		Score
HUMBLE MY TEAMMATES WOULD SAY:	1. I compliment or praise them without hesitation.	
	2. I easily admit to my mistakes.	
	3. I am willing to take on lower-level work for the good of the team.	
	4. I gladly share credit for team accomplishments.	
	5. I readily acknowledge my weaknesses.	
	6. I offer and accept apologies graciously.	
	TOTAL HUMILITY SCORE	
HUNGRY MY TEAMMATES WOULD SAY:	7. I do more than what is required in my own job.	
	8. I have passion for the "mission" of the team.	
	9. I feel a sense of personal responsibility for the overall success of the team.	
	10. I am willing to contribute to and think about work outside of office hours.	
	11. I am willing to take on tedious or challenging tasks whenever necessary.	
	12. I look for opportunities to contribute outside of my area of responsibility.	
TOTAL HUNGER SCORE		
SMART MY TEAMMATES WOULD SAY:	13. I generally understand what others are feeling during meetings and conversations.	
	14. I show empathy to others on the team.	
	15. I demonstrate an interest in the lives of my teammates.	
	16. I am an attentive listener.	
	17. I am aware of how my words and actions impact others on the team.	
	18. I adjust my behavior and style to fit the nature of a conversation or relationship.	
TOTAL SMART SCORE		

SCORING

Remember, the purpose of this tool is to help you explore and assess how you embody the three virtues of an ideal team player. The standards for "ideal" are high. An ideal team player will have few of these statements answered with anything lower than a '3' (usually) response.

A total score of 18 or 17 (in any virtue) is an indication that the virtue is a potential strength.

A total score of 16 to 14 (in any virtue) is an indication that you most likely have some work to do around that virtue to become an ideal team player.

A total score of 13 or lower (in any virtue) is an indication that you need improvement around that virtue to become an ideal team player.

Finally, keep in mind that while this tool is quantitative, the real value will be found in the qualitative, developmental conversations among team members and their managers. Don't focus on the numbers, but rather the concepts and the individual statements where you may have scored low.

How To Share Your Testimony

"Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have." —1 Peter 3:15

One of the most effective tools you have for sharing the gospel is your own story of how Jesus has transformed your life. The purpose of preparing a testimony is not to memorize it and give it verbatim, but to help you put into words some of the important and interesting details of your conversion. A testimony serves primarily as a "door opener," not a "convincing tool." Many people are not ready to be convinced that they need Christ, but can often be led to talk about the gospel after hearing a personal testimony.

Using Paul's testimony in Acts 26 as an example, here are some practical suggestions for developing your own personal testimony, thinking through three main thoughts: before, how and after.

1. Before: Acts 26:4-11

a. What were one or two of your unsatisfied deep inner needs before you came to know Jesus Christ?

Some examples of inner needs are:

- lack of peace
- fear of death
- no meaning to life
- loneliness
- lack of purpose
- lack of significance
- no real friends
- no motivation

b. What unsatisfactory solutions did you use to attempt to meet those deep inner needs? List positive as well as negative solutions you may have tried. Some examples are:

- marriage/family
- work
- drugs/alcohol
- sports/fitness
- money
- education
- hobbies/entertainment
- sex

2. How: Acts 26:12–20

a. Describe the circumstances. What caused you to consider Christ as the solution to your deep inner needs, identifying the major events that led to your conversion.

b. Describe the process. What did that moment of conversion look like? (process of repenting, surrendering, trusting, receiving, etc.)

3. After: Verses 21–23

a. You now want to clearly and briefly share the difference that Christ has made in your life. Specifically state how God has satisfied those deep inner needs mentioned in the *before*.

Note:

Adult Conversion

You trusted Christ as an adult. You have a distinct before, how and after.

Re-Commitment

You made a decision for Christ as a child, but your life was characterized by spiritual immaturity, until you reached a point of crisis and recommitted your life to Christ. Focus on the latter.

Early Conversion

You probably grew up with Christian parents and have a strong church background. You may have very little *before*. Focus on a time in your life where God has continued to meet your deep needs.

In addition, follow these guidelines:

1. **Make it sound conversational.** Avoid literary sounding statements. Use informal language.
2. **Share about what happened to you, don't preach about what should happen to them.** Say "I" and "me," not "you." This helps keep the testimony warm and personal.
3. **Avoid religious words, phrases, and jargon.** Don't assume the listener knows what you mean by terms such as sin, accepted Christ, or even Christian.
4. **Generalize so more people can identify with your story.** Don't name specific churches, denominations, or groups. Avoid using dates and ages.
5. **Include some humor and human interest.** When a person smiles or laughs, it reduces tension. Humor is disarming and increases attention.
6. **One or two word pictures increase interest.** Don't just say, "Bill shared the gospel with me." You might briefly describe the setting so a person listening can visualize it.
7. **Do not communicate that all your struggles and problems ended at conversion.** Explain how Christ met *and* continues to meet your deep inner needs.
8. **Sound adult, not juvenile.** Reflect an adult point of view even if you were converted at an early age.
9. **Simplify—reduce "clutter."** Mention a limited number of people and use only their first names. Combine information when you can.

“There is no model conversion. There is no prescribed ritual, whether emotional or liturgical. We are all different. God is the same and has the same salvation to work in us, but he creates an original story every time. We acquire an appreciation for and delight in the features of our own stories and the stories of our friends as we tell our Jesus stories to one another in the community of faith.” – Eugene Peterson, *As Kingfishers Catch Fire*