

MY CLUB

**ACF LIKE YOU'VE NEVER
SEEN IT BEFORE!**



**INCLUDES 7-PAGE
ORIGIN COMIC!**

Adventist Christian Fellowship: The Official Strategy Guide
North American Division Edition

Created by the Georgia-Cumberland Conference Young Adult and
ACF Department
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PART I
SKYVIEW

[illegible]

STR									
AGI									
SPD									
INT									

Bio

A plucky young man who loves spending time with his friends. He's a simple guy who isn't bothered by much and takes his responsibilities seriously (though he never forgets to have a little fun along the way). Diego is a History major with a deep fascination for mythology and the lives of ancient rulers. Overall, he is warm, honest, and willing to put in the effort even for the little things.

Skills

Socializing, reading comprehension, beginner magic tricks, baseball, Civilization V

One Interesting Thing

He hates public speaking, and for the longest time would freeze up anytime he had to talk in front of a group of people.

Spiritual Gift

Leadership

LANA REDMAN

STR									
AGI									
SPD									
INT									

Bio

A driven young lady with a knack for coming up with timeless ideas. She's the kind of girl who seems like a natural at all the things she does, but behind the scenes is the hardest worker in the room. Lana switched her major from Political Science to Education after spending a year in Guam teaching kids English. Though she may seem bossy at first, she's a loyal and sacrificial friend who would never let petty squabbles or power dynamics get between her and those she loves.

Skills

Martial arts, singing, studying, Mario Kart, speed dating

One Interesting Thing

She is a bonafide milk-aholic (even though she's lactose intolerant)

Spiritual Gift

Administration



VICE PRESIDENT

EIGAN LAMBERT

STR									
AGI									
SPD									
INT									

Bio

An eccentric yet unabashedly genuine fellow who takes great pride in his fashion sense. He doesn't have the kindest resting face, but don't be fooled by his scoffs and crooked pouts. Eigan is a tried and true softy, majoring in French as a way to remain connected to his mother who passed away when he was in high school. He's a good sport as well, always willing to lean into the recurring joke that he lives in a perpetual state of being ready to pose for the camera.

Skills

Track and field, chess, violin, graphic design, poetry

One Interesting Thing

He apparently has a girlfriend in France, but he has an intense, irrational distrust in commercial airline pilots.

Spiritual Gift

Knowledge



SECRETARY

TIFA GALANG

STR										
AGI										
SPD										
INT										

Bio

An absolute ray of sunshine with a grounded optimism that keeps her from being too annoying. She's girly, sporty, and just a joy to be around (sometimes to the point of exhaustion). Tifa is an Economics major with a passion for gymnastics, dance, and basketball. As the hugger of the group, no one is left feeling unloved at the end of a get-together.

Skills

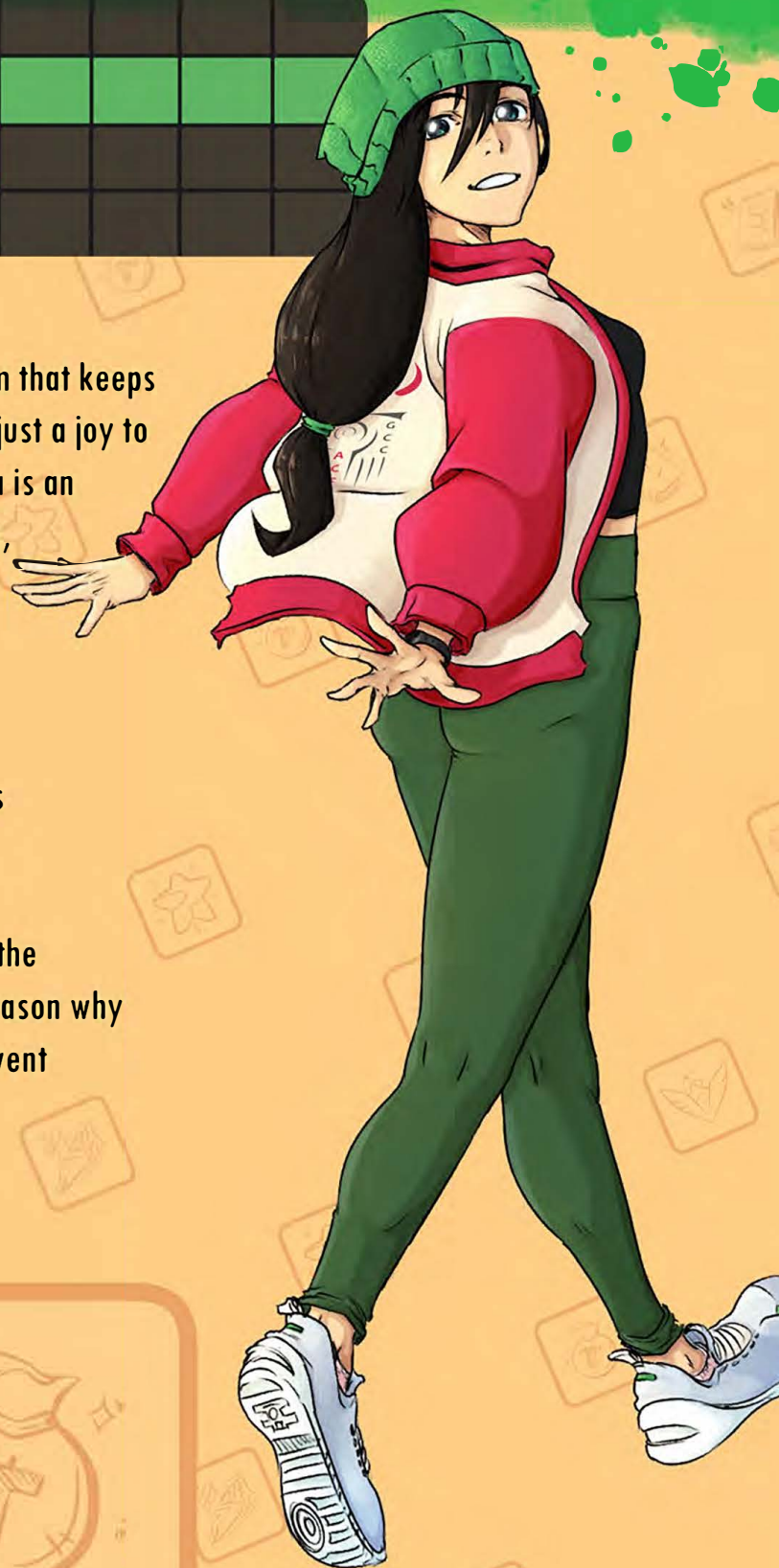
Acrobatics, ballet, breakdancing, cooking, impressions

One Interesting Thing

During March Madness, she gave a rousing speech to the basketball team that is cited to this day as the sole reason why they won the NCAA championship (a clip of her even went viral on the internet for a while afterward).

Spiritual Gift

Exhortation



MONET PAGEOTTE-ANDRE

[illegible]

Bio

A beautiful soul with a smile almost as infectious as her laugh. She's a clever young woman who's always got her eyes and ears open for what God is saying in her life and in the media she consumes. Monet is a Religion major with a minor in Film Production hoping that she can eventually make a living off of her YouTube channel where she reviews/critiques movies and TV from a Christian perspective. There are few as pretty and even fewer as witty as her.

Skills

Problem solving, critical thinking, preaching, telling jokes, double dutch

One Interesting Thing

Every halloween since she was a kid, she's dressed up as Violet Beauregarde (the blueberry girl) from Willy Wonka. Nowadays, she terrorizes the campus by rolling around in a Zorb Ball painted blue instead of trick-or-treating.

Spiritual Gift

Shepherding



FRANK SALADINO

STR

AGI

SPD

INT

Bio

A classic football jock with big dreams and a heart three times the size. He's the type of guy who's got his entire life planned out: become national champions at least once, graduate with a degree in Sports Science, become an NFL superstar, at some point meet the love of his life, get married, have kids, and be the world's greatest dad. Frank is a no-nonsense Bostonian with the guts to defy his parents' low expectations of him and prove that God made him for something special.

Skills

Football, keeping a level head, communication, beatboxing, video games

One Interesting Thing

He used to be morbidly obese, but decided to make a change in his life when he learned the life story of Tom Brady. It not only inspired him to get in shape, but to pursue his dreams no matter what.

Spiritual Gift

Mercy

7

STR										
AGI										
SPD										
INT										

A classic football jock with big dreams and a heart three times the size. He's the type of guy who's got his entire life planned out: become national champions at least once, graduate with a degree in Sports Science, become an NFL superstar, at some point meet the love of his life, get married, have kids, and be the world's greatest dad. Frank is a no-nonsense Bostonian with the guts to defy his parents' low expectations of him and prove that God made him for something special.

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He used to be morbidly obese, but decided to make a change in his life when he learned the life story of Tom Brady. It not only inspired him to get in shape, but to pursue his dreams no matter what.

Mercy





00

MY CLUB

ENTER: **DIEGO MONTEIRO**

RODRIGUEZ



A NEW
STORY OF
ACF STARTS
AT **SKYVIEW**
UNIVERSITY



ALRIGHT,
THANK YOU
DR. MATTHEWS.
NEXT UP, WE HAVE A
VERY SPECIAL GUEST
ALL THE WAY FROM
DOWN THE STREET
OVER AT THE
UNIVERSITY.

HIS NAME IS **DIEGO**,
AND HE'S GOT AN EXCITING
ANNOUNCEMENT FOR ALL
YOU COLLEGE KIDS
HERE WITH US
TODAY.

WID TELL

I--UM...
TODAY...

HOMEWORK

Diego Monteiro
"A Single Shard"

M-MY
BOOK RE...
PORT...

THE--
UH...*EHEM*
SO...

LET'S WELCOME
DIEGO HERE AS HE
TELLS US ABOUT THE
NEW SKYVIEW
ACF CLUB.

CLAP

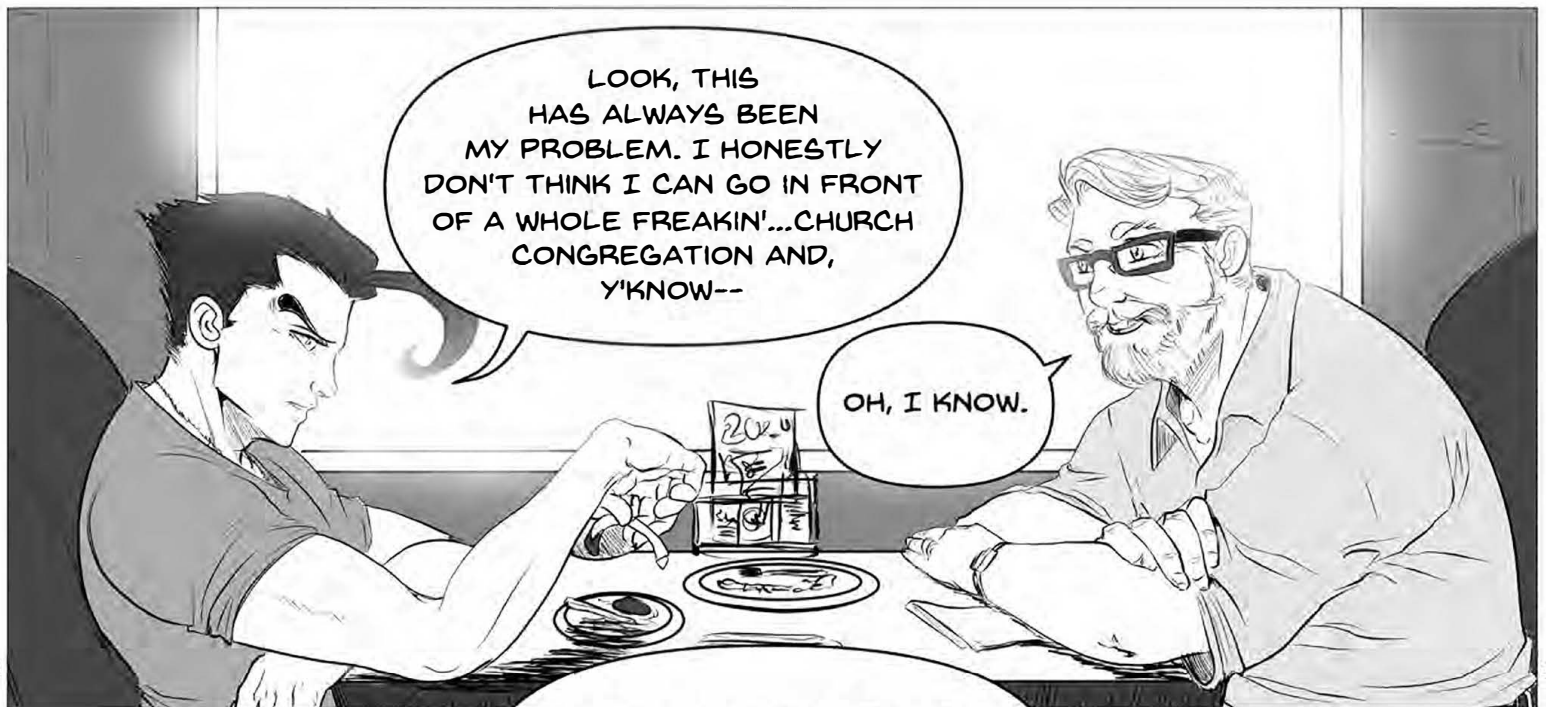
CLAP

CLAP

CLAP

CLAP

CLAP





HEY, EVERYBODY. MY NAME'S DIEGO, AS YOU UH A-ALREADY KNOW. THIS LAST WEEK, I STARTED AT SKYVIEW COMING FROM A LITTLE SDA SCHOOL FURTHER EAST. PASTOR DON KEELE, I DON'T KNOW IF ANY OF YOU KNOW OR HEARD-- HAVE MET HIM BUT...

ANYWAY, HE TOLD ME ABOUT THIS THING CALLED **ADVENTIST CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**. BASICALLY SDA CLUB ON PUBLIC UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES. IT'S PRETTY COOL 'CAUSE YOU GET TO CONNECT WITH LIKE MINDED STUDENTS AND...

WELL...HONESTLY THE REASON I FEEL INSPIRED TO START ACF AT SKYVIEW WAS BECAUSE I WANT TO HELP MAKE A PLACE PEOPLE CAN BELONG EVEN BEFORE THEY BELIEVE. I'D LIKE TO GIVE IT EVERYTHING I'VE GOT TO BE A LIGHT ON CAMPUS. SORRY IF THAT SOUNDS A BIT CHEESY, BUT UH--

BUT I MEAN IT. SO, IF ANYONE HERE GOES TO SKYVIEW OR KNOWS SOMEBODY WHO DOES AND MIGHT BE INTERESTED, I'D LOVE TO GET TO KNOW YOU A-AND UH, YEAH. MAYBE WE CAN BE A PART OF SOMETHING REALLY SPECIAL. THANK YOU.

HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA





OOO, YES!
THIS SOUNDS LIKE
EXACTLY WHAT I WAS
LOOKING FOR.
COUNT ME
IN ♥



HMM, I DON'T
KNOW. I'M REALLY
BUSY READING THIS
BOOK. BUUUT, MAYBE
I CAN MAKE TIME TO BE
FULLY INVESTED IN THIS
WONDERFUL IDEA YOU
HAVE. PUT MY NAME
DOWN AT THE
VERY TOP.



HMPH. I'D BE LYING IF I
SAID I WASN'T INTERESTED.
FINE. I WILL GLADLY PROVIDE
MY SERVICES TO THIS FELLOWSHIP.
JUST AS LONG AS I DON'T HAVE TO
GO THROUGH SOME EMBARRASING
INITIATION CEREMONY.



ACF? HECK
YEAH! WHATEVER
YOU NEED ME TO DO,
JUST LET ME KNOW,
CHIEF. I'LL BE
RIGHT BEHIND
YA.

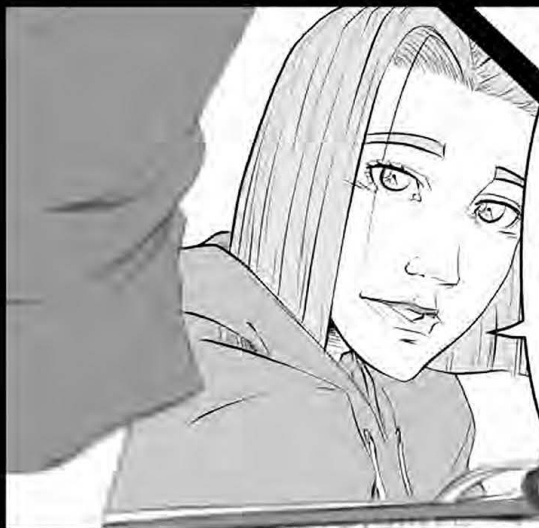


I THINK WE'RE GOOD.
MET OUR MINIMUMS, AND
I'M ALREADY GETTING TEXTS
FROM MONET'S FRIENDS AND
SOME OF FRANK'S BUDDIES
ON THE FOOTBALL
TEAM.



IT REALLY MEANS A
LOT, LANA. THIS WHOLE
THING. JUST NICE TO KNOW
THAT I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE
WHO REALLY CARES ABOUT
PUTTING THIS WHOLE
THING TOGETHER

YOU'RE
WELCOME.



YOU KNOW,
I'VE ALWAYS HAD
BIG GOALS IN LIFE.
I KNEW I COULDN'T
ACHIEVE THEM ON MY
OWN, BUT I NEVER HAD
ANYONE WHO BELIEVED
IN ME, OR...WELL, POINT
IS, I WANT TO BE FOR
YOU WHAT I ALWAYS
WISH SOMEONE WAS
FOR ME. AND I CAN
TELL THIS IS SOME-
THING YOU BELIEVE
IN. SO I BELIEVE
IN IT, TOO

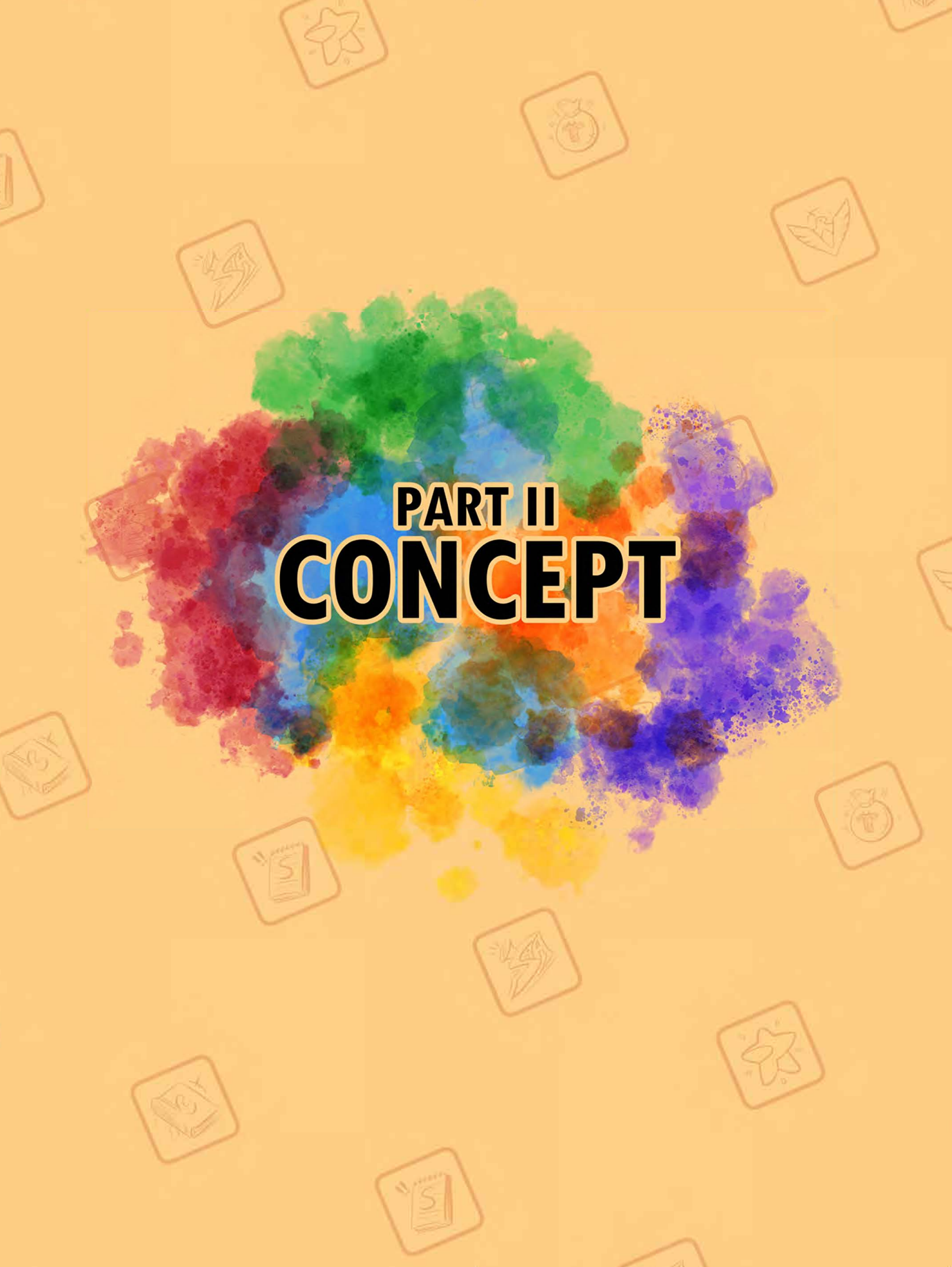


ONE WEEK LATER...

MY CLUB CHAPTER 0
END

HEY, GUYS! WELCOME
TO THE FIRST EVER ACF
SKYVIEW MEETING. FIRST
OFF, I JUST WANT TO THANK
YOU ALL FOR SIGNING UP AND
CHOOSING TO BUILD THIS MINISTRY
WITH ME. I'M ONLY HERE BECAUSE
GOD PUT THIS IN MY HEART AND
GOOD PEOPLE BELIEVE IN ME.
SO LET'S HAVE A WORD OF
PRAYER AND HIT THE
GROUND RUNNING!
YOU READY?





PART II **CONCEPT**

ACF FOR LIFE

College life is hard. While getting an education is the primary goal, you're also doing a bunch of other stuff outside of school. One of the things that employers look at when considering who to hire is how you spend your extra-curricular time.

ACF covers a lot of the bases that employers are looking for outside the classroom: service to your community, leadership development while a student, and being someone who is morally and ethically sound. They are looking for a person who knows what they believe and can utilize those beliefs to make the best decisions possible, not only in their personal life, but in how they make decisions for the company.

"ACF HAS ALL OF THE BUILDING BLOCKS YOU NEED TO HELP YOU DEVELOP THE BEST VERSION OF YOURSELF."

ACF is chock full of opportunities to develop your leadership skills; to try your ideas with your group and make a difference on your campus. It may be difficult, but if you can learn to lead while you're a student and the stakes are low, you'll have a huge head start. Once you are employed, you'll rocket through the ranks by showing your ability to lead. Every industry is looking for leaders.

At its core, ACF has all of the building blocks you need to help you develop the best version of yourself, especially in your faith. Your club can be a safe place to help you grow in your faith alongside others who are also seeking to learn how to live for Christ in a secular environment.

It's a place to belong, know and be known, create friendships that can last a lifetime, and beyond. You don't have to go to another country to be a missionary. It's just as dark right outside your window. With ACF, you can be the light.





MAKE A STATEMENT

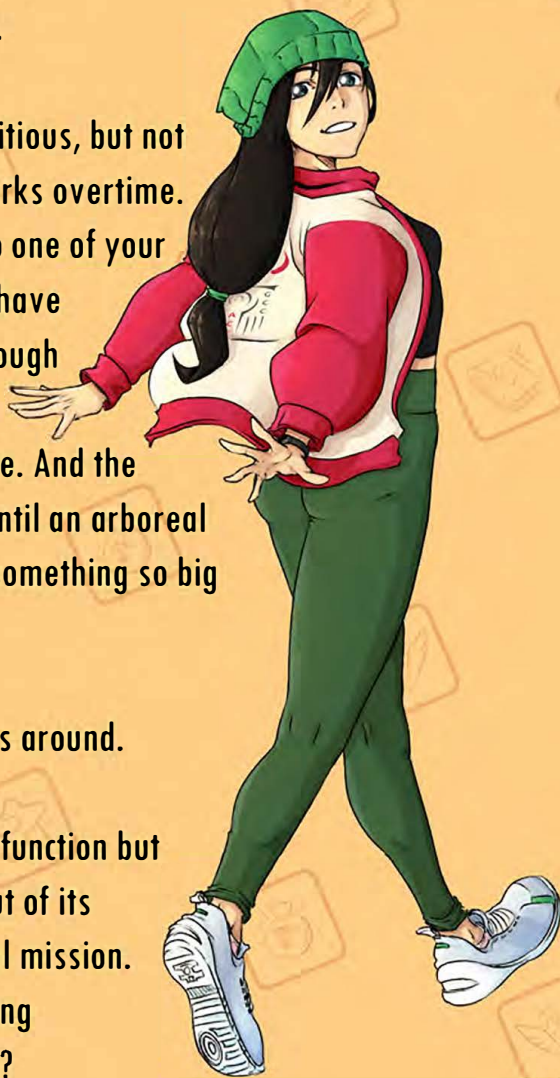
ACF Mission - Reach the campus. Change the world.

That's the overall mission statement. It's pretty ambitious, but not impossible. Especially if you think about how God works overtime. Just once, someone in need of belonging shows up to one of your events. They feel, for the first time, what it's like to have friends. To know someone cares about them even though you don't even know them that well. Maybe they carry that to their group of friends or even back home. And the branches continue to grow, sprouting in more lives until an arboreal tapestry reveals itself. It can be easy to forget that something so big started with just a planted seed.

Theme - The statement of truth that a story revolves around.

It's the vital piece of the machine that, without, may function but have no purpose. Every part of a good story flows out of its theme, and so too should your club's culture and local mission. One sentence or two is all it takes. What is the defining statement of truth that your club will revolve around?

For example, ours is "God will guide you along the best pathway of your life" based on Psalms 32:8. We chose that verse because, when we all first came together to form our ACF club, we all kinda felt directionless. Most of us were still freshmen, so we had our whole college careers ahead of us. The only thing we were sure of was that we wanted to build this community, and center it in that promise. God will guide us along the best pathway of our lives. Trusting in that has taken care of a lot of the extra stress we put on ourselves throughout the years.





Local Mission - Now that you have your theme, you can come up with your own mission statement! Try to keep it short and sweet. Something you all can remember and keep in your hearts. Something that you all really want not just for yourselves, but for those who'll carry on after you graduate. What is your club's mission (if you choose to accept it)?

PLUG & PLAY

AFTER COMING UP WITH YOUR CLUB'S THEME,
USE THE FORMULA BELOW TO COME UP WITH YOUR
LOCAL MISSION STATEMENT.

[YOUR CLUB NAME] EXISTS TO [DENOMINATIVE THEME].

EXAMPLE

"ACF SKYVIEW EXISTS TO FOLLOW AND HELP
OTHERS DOWN THE PATH GOD HAS FOR THEM."

NOW YOU TRY!

My Club's Local Mission Statement



REAL-ATIONSHIPS

Artificial intelligence (AI) has made significant strides in recent years, becoming a ubiquitous presence in our daily lives. However, as AI becomes increasingly intelligent and integrated into our lives, it raises important questions about the role of human behavior in this rapidly changing landscape. One such question is the importance of authentic relationships in the age of AI.

Authentic relationships are those that are based on genuine human connection, trust, and mutual understanding. They are the foundation of healthy personal and professional relationships and are essential for personal growth, happiness, and well-being. In the age of AI, it is easy to lose sight of the importance of authentic relationships.

Authentic relationships provide emotional support, a sense of belonging, and a source of motivation and inspiration. They also help us develop empathy, communication skills, and a better understanding of ourselves and others.

Y'know, AI may be able to simulate human behavior, but it'll never replace that genuine connection between people. The irony is, I got all that you just read off AskAI. And while it's absolutely true and brings up a lot of great points, it didn't come from the heart. They're just words generated on the topic of authentic relationships in the age of AI.

Our ACF clubs aren't just some "friendship" generator. We have to move to deeper, more real human connections. Ask questions and actively listen! Pay attention to what somebody is actually saying and respond thoughtfully.





AI can't empathize. It can't understand and share the feelings of others. To enter another's world through empathy deepens our relationships and helps us build stronger connections. We can practice empathy when we actively seek to see things from another person's perspective.

We know from experience that nothing beats face-to-face interactions when it comes to building friendships. Technology can help us stay in touch, but it can never replace authentic human interactions.

**"IF YOU LIFT UP CHRIST IN EVERY ENCOUNTER,
PEOPLE WILL BE DRAWN TO THE JESUS THEY
SEE IN YOUR GROUP."**

For your ACF Club to be successful, you have to re-humanize your relationships. Take a break from scrolling and relearn the art of just being together. I know I sound like a fireplace decoration, but you gotta live, laugh, and love together. This will make your club into a place where others will desire to be. Relationships are one of the missing ingredients in our society today, and when found in your ACF club, they will actually be the catalyst for drawing people in.

The Bible says, "When I be lifted up, I will draw everyone unto myself." (John 12:32) If you lift up Christ in every encounter, people will be drawn to the Jesus they see in your group. His message, lived out by people in a world where fake is the norm, will have the realest effect.



THE FIVE C's

Connect Daily

Whether it be a text, a group chat where you send memes, or a fist bump as you pass each other on the way to class, do a little thing everyday to maintain your bond as friends. The important thing here is that it is genuine. If you don't actually feel it in your heart to send a text, think of something else. I guarantee there's some way you'd honestly want to stay connected to the members of your club.

Commune Weekly

Meet together, in person, once a week. It can be for game night, going out to eat, or even a Bible study. Doesn't matter. Spend time together. Interact in person. And don't make it just a "club meeting". Make it something everyone (including you) will be looking forward to weekly.

Confer Monthly

This is the official meeting time. Business mode. Usually would be for just the leadership, but invite those who you're eyeing for future leadership as well. Talk about the moves you're making, how are club projects coming along, plan the next event, what's the next service outing. Strategize, keep it tight. Secretaries get to work at these meetings.





Commemorate Seasonally

Party time! Fall, winter, spring, summer. Plan something to do with everyone every season. Doesn't have to be huge, but it should be special (more special than whatever you do together weekly). Put some effort into these celebrations. Make all those frat boys and sorority girls feel like they're at the wrong parties.

Congratulate Yearly

There may not be members graduating every year, but there is always another year in the books. So make a thing of it, dress up fancy. Go out or throw a mini-banquet to celebrate. What this will do is cement each year's accomplishment with those who, hopefully at this point, have really begun settling in as a part of your club family.

IN REVIEW

CONNECT DAILY

COMMUNE WEEKLY

CONFER MONTHLY

COMMEMORATE SEASONALLY

CONGRATULATE YEARLY



PART III **PRACTICE**

STARTING A CHAPTER

Gathering Information

- Check with your campus's Student Life office to confirm their requirements
- Find out required group size and any other minimums
- Discover what paperwork is needed (i.e. Constitution and Bylaws) and if there are any specific filing procedures
- Make sure to attend any form of required club orientation
- Ask what being a registered organization entitles you to.
- Inquire of possible transportation services that are available for club use



Filing with Your University

- Gather your group
- Meet the minimums
- Find an advisor
- File the Constitution and Bylaws
- Attend new club orientation



Registering Your Chapter

If your conference or union have established a chapter registration process, register with them directly.

If there is no registration process is set up at the conference or union level, the next step is to register with the North American Division ACF on the official NAD ACF website at <https://acflink.org/acf-chapter-directory/>.

If you are not already registered on the NAD ACF website, you will first need to register yourself then register your group. Your registration will be reviewed and processed by NAD ACF. When it has been approved your chapter will show up in the list of ACF Chapters under your state or province. →



Registering Your Chapter (cont.)

After your registration has been approved by NAD ACF the following things will happen:

- Your chapter will receive a tabling kit from AdventSource to help you promote your chapter during welcome week on your campus. The tabling kit includes one "A" frame sandwich board sign with 2 chapter promo inserts and 6 ACF t-shirts.
- Your chapter will be listed with all the ACF Chapters across the North American Division.

Relationships

It is important to the longevity and health of your chapter to also build relationships with your local church. We have found that by linking ourselves to our local church, we have a much more solid foundation because the church goes help take up the slack. They often provide a place to meet, food, and wisdom at just the right moment.

To order the ACF brochure, scan this code:



Chapter training for launching and sustaining an ACF Chapter is available on line through the Adventist Learning Community:



North American Division wide training is provided through ACF INSTITUTE. Check it out previous and upcoming ACF INSTITUTES at www.acflink.org.

You can find many other great campus ministry resources to help grow your chapter:
<https://www.adventsource.org/store/young-adults/public-campus>



THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Yo, yo! Buckle up 'cause I'm aboutta take you through the roles and descriptions of your ACF Officers AKA the Executive Board (e-board for short).



PRESIDENT

First off, of course, you've got the **President**.
Lead in visioning, calendar and settin' goals.
Be the "blowtorch". If you don't do nothin', they won't either.
Build the crew and delegate.
Set the timeline and assign tasks to see things through to the end.



VICEPRESIDENT

Then you've got the **Vice-President**.
Work with the President and E-Board to cast a vision for your group.
Assist in delegating tasks.
Assist in tracking tasks that have been delegated.
Work with President and E-Board to run your ministry calendar.
Lead out when the president is unable to or unavailable.



SECRETARY

One you gotta have is a **Secretary**.
Record and keep a database of all members.
Supply active members roster to the ACF Dept at the Conference office for their central database.
Develop and maintain an alumni list for future contact and invitation to ACF Chapter/Alumni events (also possible funding stream).
Work with E-Board on ministry planning and implementation.
Keep the communications officer supplied with updated membership contacts.





TREASURER

Make sure you've got a good **Treasurer**, too.

Track all ministry funds and be able to give an accounting to the Conference ACF Dept for monies spent.

Work with e-board to determine the ability to fund events.

Develop relationship with local church to see if they will also aid in funding ministry on your campus.



CHAPLAIN

Don't forget to pick the right person for **Chaplain**.

Strive to be one of the club's key spiritual leaders.

Lead out (or coordinate volunteer leaders) in Bible study and discussion.

Spearhead outreach activities.



SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

And last but not least, you can never go wrong with a **Sergeant-at-Arms!**

Uphold the ACF constitution and bylaws.

Maintain order during meetings and club events.

Keep the e-board grounded and accountable in a supportive and encouraging way.

If you want, you could also put someone in charge of **Communications**.

Design (or have designed) posters for each event to be used around campus, on social media or direct text to inform membership and your campus of upcoming events.

Develop a weekly bullet point text of upcoming events and how to participate for all members so they will know which are for members and which they should be inviting their friends to.

Take pictures at events (or arrange for someone to take pics) and post them on social media so that your media feed is more than just flyers for upcoming events, but actually shows people AT your events.

Do a write up with pictures at least once per semester and send it to the ACF Dept. at the conference for wider distribution.



Whatever you do, though, make sure you've got an **Advisor**.

ATTENTION ADVISORS!

Some things an advisor can do, or should do, to assist their ACF chapter.

- Register with the university as part of the group (according to university guidelines)
- Meet with chapter leadership monthly or as needed to encourage them and make recommendations.
- Be available to visit with students who need encouragement
- Research what other chapters are doing (facebook.com/ACFNAD and acflink.org)
- Provide ideas for your local chapter.
- Encourage leadership to maintain a spiritual atmosphere instead of political or activist.
- Volunteer to do a worship once a month for their weekly meetings.
- Invite students to your home on Friday evening for a meal, Bible study and fellowship.
- Be on the lookout for students with leadership potential and encourage them to be more involved.
- Act as liaison between the group and a local SDA church to provide facilities and funding for activities. This will help them remember they are part of the church.
- Remind the local church that university students are permitted to hold office in the church where they study, even if their membership is not there (Church Manual)
- Make recommendations to the church of students who may work well particularly with young people 18-30.
- Attend ACF leadership training events, including ACFL.



MINISTRY PLANNING

Now we come to the crux of what an ACF Chapter can do to impact their group and their campus for Christ. Here, above anywhere else, there is a need for simplicity and clarity. And if in doubt, there is a fairly good rule of thumb to follow: Less is more! What do I mean by that? Simply this. Schedule less. Be consistent. Keep it meaningful.

Let's be real. We all want to have the best of everything. We want the best professors, the best grades, the best job, the best spiritual walk with Jesus, and ACF is no different. We want our chapter to be the best for the most impact. But very quickly we discover that time becomes the enemy.

We're busy but also tend to take on too much. So when the time crunch comes, we bail. Not a good look. So start with accepting less and then you can do more with the things you do accept.

When it comes to planning your ACF Ministry year, put those same principles into effect. Schedule less, be consistent and then seek to make sure that what you do is deeply meaningful to all involved and you will find your members begin to prioritize your ACF Chapter above some of their other extra-curricular activities.

So let's get down to it. Plan your entire year with your team in one or two meetings, put those events on the calendar, and then run your calendar. If you have planned a balanced calendar, you won't have too much trouble making them happen. So what should be on your calendar? How should it be laid out throughout the semester?





Every semester has three main parts:

The Startup

The Grind

The Wrap-up

I've also categorized activity types that can be employed throughout a semester to help you understand how to get a flow.

I like to start with **social** events that help attract people and give them a place to belong, even if they aren't believers. We all need friends, and social events are key to attracting new members.

Then there are **service** events. Service events are what keep people coming because they find meaning in serving others and making a difference.

And finally, we come to the reason ACF exists, and that is the **spiritual** events.

Think of this progression as a funnel. Start with social, move to service, and then lead them to the spiritual. Now, let's apply this funnel to the three main parts of the semester.

THE STARTUP

The Startup is when people are at their most optimistic. It's the beginning of a new semester and they aren't into the grind yet.

pg. 30

THE GRIND

The Grind is that long stretch between the opening weeks of school and the closing weeks of the semester.

pg. 31

THE WRAP-UP

Then comes the Wrap-up part of each semester. Think celebration of holidays in the first semester and celebration of people at the end...

pg. 32



THE STARTUP

The Startup is when people are at their most optimistic. It's the beginning of a new semester and they aren't into the grind yet. (This is also when it is easiest to get new members—miss this opportunity and it is much harder picking them up later). On your planning calendar, your ACF team should plan at least two startup or social events. Tabling and a follow up social event. Tabling (putting up an ACF info table at your university's club fair or student life day) is an excellent way to meet people and let them know you are on campus. Collecting names and contact info through a QR-coded sign that pops them into a Google form is one of the easiest ways to get the info. At the top of the form, you can have a concise description about your club and an invitation to join you for a follow up social event within 7 days of the tabling event. If you wait much longer, they will have forgotten you and your club.

This is the one-two punch for gaining new members. Get your team leaders and members out tabling. Talk to people. Be friendly and have a flier to your upcoming social event to hand them. Encourage them to fill out the form so that you can contact them with further opportunities. Then, sometime before your 7 day window closes, hold a social event where you can actually meet and better learn about those who are interested. Be ready at this event to share more about who you are, what you do and where you meet. If you have your calendar planned, you can share your upcoming events and have them put those dates in their calendar at that time. This gives you a head start on being included in their calendars before they pack them chock full of other things. Make sure you include all social, service and spiritual events that are upcoming. Again, a QR code where they can quickly grab your dates and save the document in their device, or perhaps figuring out a way to actually go directly into their calendars, will keep your ACF Club on their radar as they move into the Grind.



THE GRIND

The Grind is that long stretch between the opening weeks of school and the closing weeks of the semester. People will generally only make time for what they find fun, relaxing or particularly meaningful during this time. If you provide some Saturday afternoon social event, such as hikes, or canoe trips down a quiet river or lake, or some other outdoor adventure, many will come to that. Saturday night bowling or putt-putt golf, where everyone pays their own tab, likewise provides a place and time to just be together and build friendships.

"SELECTING MEANINGFUL AND TIMELY SERVICE EVENTS HELPS ALL FEEL LIKE THEY ARE CONTRIBUTING SOMETHING OF VALUE."

As you move deeper into the grind, begin to think Service. There are many opportunities on every campus, whether it is doing something for a homeless or refugee population nearby, serving in a soup kitchen, working to alleviate food insecurity on campus or selecting an elderly widow's lawn to mow, rake leaves and clean-up, each will grow your group's bond closer. While Social helps bring groups together, it is the Service events that actually bring the buy-in and staying power to your club. Selecting meaningful and timely service events helps all feel like they are contributing something of value, and we all want to be where we feel both wanted and needed.

Think balance during the Grind. You want to have some easy-to-plan (and attend) social events. A place where all can come together and hangout, yet you want to put most of your energy into meaningful service events. Again, don't over schedule. 1 easy social and 1 service event per month (or even 6 weeks) during the grind would be appropriate.



THE WRAP-UP

Then comes the Wrap-up part of each semester. Think celebration of holidays in the first semester and celebration of people at the end of the second. Thanksgiving and Christmas both present great opportunities for holiday parties (you can also celebrate your December grads at these). An End-of-the-Year Party or Finals Party or other special event can give you a chance to celebrate graduating seniors, transition leadership and begin working on laying plans for the following year.

Throughout both semesters, there should always be the spiritual element for any interested. A weekly connection point, especially among your leadership team, where you spend time praying over your group and for individual members, along with some time in the Word, is crucial to keeping your club focused and effective. Never forget that the underlying purpose of your ACF Club is to continually help yourself and others have a relationship with Jesus Christ. Make sure that you are consistently inviting those who come to your social and service events to come to your spiritual events as well, for this is where the deeper conversations happen about how faith can be integrated into a life for a more fulfilling present and future, filled with meaning, purpose and a better self.

**"START WITH SOCIAL. MOVE TO SERVICE.
BUT DON'T FORGET THE SPIRITUAL. THERE
ALWAYS NEEDS TO BE MOVEMENT TOWARDS
JESUS. HOPE THAT HELPS AS YOU PLAN
FOR MINISTRY THIS SEMESTER!"**



TRANSITION & SUCCESSION



Plan for Succession, Your ACF Chapter's Life Depends on It.

- Most ACF group die because they haven't visioned well and have no plans for succession
- If you fail to recruit new people each year, in two or three years, there will be no group.

The Power of Vision

- People are more willing to get involved if they know they are contributing towards a bigger vision.
- The vision has to be actionable.
- Start with why.
- Then move to the what, how, when, and where.

Developing Your Group

- Know who you are, what your purpose is and why you do it.
- Don't be embarrassed about who you are or what you do.
- Always, Always make yourself known on campus through tabling, events or some other way, because there are students literally dying for a place to belong.
- Pray that God will connect you with new people
- Make sure that you are registered with your university each year and know the people in that office that can most help you.
- Develop activities each semester designed to recruit based on people's needs and how you can fill their needs rather than on filling the needs of the group.
- Make your meetings valuable. We are all busy, but will find time to put towards where we find value.
- We will find value in what we build ourselves. So will others. Build together.





Developing Your Group (cont.)

- Seek to listen above all things. If there is not a good reason to say no...try something.
- Identify people each year that can assist in helping you move your chapter forward.
- Begin to mentor those people and talk to them about a plan of succession and where they will fit in that.
- Ask each to commit to something specific... attending a certain number of meetings, dedicating a certain number of hours, recruiting a certain number of people...etc.
- Always evaluate your programs and events. As good as they are, they can be better.
- Affirm, Affirm, Affirm. . . If you have handed a program off to someone, affirm whatever you can. . . even if it is something as small as “thank you for being willing.”
- When someone really pulls through for you, affirm them in front of the group. Nothing will cause someone else to seek to replicate their positive actions more than feeling valued by their group.
- Nothing builds community more in a group than members affirming the value of one another to the group.

*** YOUR CLUB DEPENDS ON PLANNING FOR
*SUCCESSION***
*** THERE IS POWER IN *VISION***
*** TAKE THE TIME TO *DEVELOP* YOURSELF
AND YOUR GROUP**



Identify New Leaders

- Poll your group for those that might be interested
- Identify someone who has been consistent and is already invested. Talk to them individually about taking on one of the leadership roles. Describe honestly what it requires.
- Give them time to pray about it, but give them a set time. Leaving it open ended for them to “get back with you” means that they can continue to push you off until the end of the year and then decide they don’t want to. That leaves you with no one else to go to. Give them a week and then follow up. If they say no, honor that and go elsewhere.
- So, what happens if we can’t find anyone? Then let them know that you will be closing the chapter and informing the conference, and they will have to go through a complete application start-up and registration process if they should ever decide they want another chapter. This will include having a sponsor and at least 7 members.

Note: This is NOT a bluff. This is the resource saving and ethical thing to do. It means that we can take the money allocated to your chapter and re-allocate it to campuses that DO want in. So, the discussion that you need to have if you can’t find any new leaders is to decide whether you really need/want an ACF chapter on your campus or not.

- Once you have identified new leaders, don’t just drop it on them and run. Begin to mentor them through the process (even if you are graduating).

Mentor Them Into Position

- Plan (with them) for the upcoming semester
- Walk them through what a year in ACF ministry would look like and how to brainstorm new events to meet the needs of your campus.
- Keep an open line of communication with them for at least the first 2 months of the following year, NOT to lead, but to give counsel and help the new leaders consider things they may not have thought of.



Mentor Them Into Position

- Gradually back out, but if you are still in school, try to attend the planned meetings so that they know someone is there to support them.
- Be available for questions any time for at least the following semester if not the year.

Note: If people are leaving because they are graduating, asking them to stick around can be overwhelming since they're moving on to the next chapter of their lives.

Maybe, someone else on the e-board would be willing to help, even if they aren't necessarily in the role of president. It's possible they have a pretty good idea of what their chapter has done or been doing. If you have former officers that are willing to still be available whenever, then that's great! Just keep some contingencies in the back of your mind just in case.

Plan to Leave a Legacy

- Your greatest legacy is in the form of a strong ACF group when you graduate
- Before you close out a year, have your group evaluate how well they feel they did for the year. Ask what they would change, do differently, add or subtract and help them lay plans for the next year.

- * OBSERVE AND **IDENTIFY** THE LEADERS
- * **MENTOR** SUCCESSORS INTO THEIR FUTURE ROLE
- * PLAN TO LEAVE A **LEGACY** BEHIND AFTER YOU GRADUATE



CLUB FUNDING

When planning your ministry on campus, it may seem like it's gonna burn a huge hole in your wallet. Even though it's more about relationships and trusting God to support, it admittedly does take some money to do His ministry on campus. That's why I wanted to make this little page so you can know what options you have!

Start with your **local church** and/or **conference Youth/Young Adult Department** by presenting a budget for what God is leading you to do.

BeTheArc.org is another great funding option for ACF Chapters and students for ministry and resources.



You can also check out **The Winifred Stevens Foundation** who grant funding to registered ACF clubs. Grant applications should be submitted in May for the next school year.



And of course, most universities offer student organization funding for officially registered groups on campus. Check with your student affairs office or Dean of Students to see what you can get for your club :)

Ultimately though, don't let a lack of funds, resources, or anything keep you from sharing God's love on campus. If you're inspired, have a vision and motivation, He'll will always provide a way! ♥





HEY! IT'S ME DIEGO! I CAN'T WAIT FOR YOU TO FINALLY SEE WHAT WE'VE BEEN WORKING ON. MY FRIENDS AND I CAME UP WITH AN IDEA TO MAKE A STRATEGY GUIDE TO HELP OTHER ACF CLUBS BUILD A THRIVING, MEANINGFUL COMMUNITY TO DO COLLEGE WITH.

INCLUDED IN THIS GUIDE IS EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CONCEPTUALIZING YOUR CLUB ALONGSIDE PRACTICAL TUTORIALS FOR RUNNING IT WELL. WE'LL TAKE YOU THROUGH THEMING, VISION, BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS, AND EVEN HOW TO BEST TRANSITION YOUR CLUBS LEADERSHIP INTO THE NEXT GENERATION.

I'M GETTING' PUMPED ALREADY! WELL? CATCH YOU ON THE FLIP :D



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