



EVERLASTING

JOHN 3:16

Everlasting Introduction and setting up your event.

Kick-off Logistics:

This is the kickoff for all the lessons and the entire event. Spend some time laying the ground rules and explaining the schedule for the event.

Here are some things to consider talking about:

1. Tell students why your church or ministry is doing this event. Cast the vision for students to know why it's important and why the church values them.
2. Let students know what they can expect from this weekend. For example: a chance to worship God, learn more about following Christ, have a lot of fun and eat really good food, get some quality time with friends, have ministry leaders invest in them, get answers to tough questions.
3. Let students know what is expected of them. For example: coming to all the sessions, being honest, treating the host homes with care.

Speaker Note: These Large Group Outlines are designed to give you a foundation to speak from. They are full of optional illustrations, object lessons, and anecdotes that you can use as much or as little as you'd like.

*Don't forget the Intro Video included in your *Everlasting* download to use during this first Large Group Talk!

*Be sure to view any illustration video clips ahead of time.

*Also included in your *Everlasting* download are PowerPoint backgrounds to use with these Large Group Outlines or any other place you see fitting to make your event great!

Everlasting Introduction

Say Something Like

When we hear the same thing over and over again, it tends to lose its meaning. Think about the end of a soccer game when both teams line up and high five each opponent saying, "Good game. Good game. Good game. Good game." Those words don't have much meaning left to them by the time you get through the whole line.

The same thing can happen to us in our churches or in our faith. We hear certain phrases or verses over and over again, and they can lose their meaning. Its like we become numb to them. "Walk the talk" or "to the glory of God," become more

like nice sounding background noise, rather than messages that change the way we live.

In many cases, John 3:16 is one of those verses that is easy to become numb to. From Sunday school to banners, sermons, and mission trips, it makes a lot of appearances. And quite frankly, it should. The entire story of the universe culminates in this verse. It lays out God's giant rescue plan for the world and helps everything else make sense.

Ask: What's the first thing that comes to mind when you hear the word "everlasting?"

When we start following Christ, we start the beginning of forever. Everlasting life means that we live forever with the God of the universe who is crazy about us. It means that everything wrong in your life doesn't have the final say, and that we know how the story ends. Everlasting life means that while the first 80 years or so of our lives is on earth, and it's a tiny dot in comparison to eternity.

Over the next few sessions, we're going to take a fresh look at John 3:16 and the everlasting life it talks about. We're going to cut through the background noise or the numbness we may have gotten used to and go deep into God's rescue plan to bring you into his family...forever.

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.
-John 3:16 (NKJV)