Momentum Rewind Sessions

Momentum Youth Conference (MYC) **is not** a destination or an end, but a *mile marker* in following Jesus. We have designed an intense week to challenge your students' faith. You, on the other hand, have been entrusted with shepherding these students through many formative years. Godspeed.

To better serve you in this partnership we have designed **Momentum** Rewind Sessions as a follow up to MYC's main speakers. The 21 **Momentum** Rewind Sessions follow a simple format (the *What*), geared to help your students remember, rekindle, and reengage God and others (the *Why*).

WHY use M Momentum Rewind Sessions?

Remember key truths God taught them: Within a week of coming home, your students will return to the world of Push notices, Pokemon Go, and peer pressure. Lessons God taught them will fade. *Cultivating spiritual memory is key to maturing in Jesus*. So said the Apostle Paul: "To write the same things to you is no trouble to me and is safe for you" (Phil. 3:1b, ESV).

Rekindle passion and commitments your students made: When lights are dimmed and music pulsing, students feel their spiritual passion surge. They make commitments and write them down. Then they return home and daily challenges drag them down. Passion requires ongoing attention. The apostle Paul told Timothy to "fan into flames the gift of God..." (2 Tim. 1:6, ESV)

Reengage their spheres of influence: Whatever truth and passion God stirred in your students, He intended it to overflow. God calls each student to live ON MISSION in their sphere of influence – home, church, work, sports, and school – where he or she may show and tell of God's redeeming love. "You are my witnesses," Jesus said (Acts 1:8). This still applies.

WHAT's in the M Momentum Rewind Sessions?

- **Prompt**: Each lesson begins with a question or illustration to peak interest.
- **Play**: Each lesson has a link to a recording of the main speaker's lesson.
- **Process**: Each lesson provides follow up Bible passages and reflection questions.
- **Pray**: Each lesson closes with an opportunity for accountability and prayer.

We recognize curriculum is but one resource in the discipleship process. And there is no shortage of good curriculum. However, in our speedy culture, we believe there is great value in review and reflection. This is designed to build on what God started in your students. Consider letting them lead it.

An **Incentive:** If you pass this curriculum opportunity on to a youth worker who has never brought his/her church to Momentum, and they sign up as a new church,* *you will receive* one **free** registration *for your church*.** Two new churches = two free registrations. **For more information**, call the Momentum office at 574.267.6622 and ask to talk to Erin.

*Each new church must have at least 5 people registered for full the week of conference. **Each free registration is for ONE student and may not be divided between students. **Note**: New churches may be eligible for the new church discount.

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Clayton King | I Am Chosen

™ Momentum Rewind | Main Session 1 of 9



Key Passage: 1 Peter 2:1-12

Core Truth: When we know who we are, we will know what to do.

₩ We are God's household (v. 5)

₩ We are God's chosen people (v. 10)

₩ We are God's possession (v. 10)

₩ We are aliens and strangers in this world (v. 12)

Prompt: Our culture teaches us to craft our identity around our accomplishments and orientation. "I am an athlete." "I am gay." "I am a gamer." These identities rival what God says about us.

To get your students thinking about how they tend to these false identities, have them write down four words they use to describe themselves. Either have a few students share, or collect them without names and try guessing which words "identify" which students.* Then set the stage for Clayton who will contrast our biblical identity ("I am chosen") with our cultural profiles.

*This activity is akin to the game Loaded Questions. If your youth group is large, you will need to break up into smaller clusters or just select a few sheets. You may not have time to read all of the submissions.

Play: Video of Clayton King, "I Am Chosen" www.buildmomentum.org/resources.html

Process: Select from the following questions to help students remember, rekindle and reengage.

- **★** Reread 1 Peter 2:1-12.
- 1 Peter 2:1-12 sets the tone for the theme for the whole Momentum conference. It talks specifically to believers about their identity in Christ. Clayton mentioned many words used to describe his identity: daddy, husband, pastor, evangelist, outdoorsman, musician, etc. He said some "identity" words are positive, some are not. What words describe your identity?
- Clayton referenced studies in psychology that have proven our identities are wrapped up in what we think other people think about us, not about what we think about ourselves. What people have formed your identity? And what do these people say about you?
- In 1 Peter 2:1-12 the author tells us four things God thinks about us. What are the four things God says about us as believers? (NOTE: This passage is intended for Christ-followers.)
- Clayton shared about kickball and his adoption story to illustrate the power of being "chosen."

 What are everyday experiences that tend to make us feel left out?
- Clayton showed off his autographed Bible (by Billy Graham, not God!), a prized possession. What is your prized possession and how do you take care of it?
- What can you do this week to lean into what God says about you to better live for him?

Pray: Have students group up. Encourage them both to confess false identity markers and to embrace what God says about them as being His household, possession, and chosen people.

Clayton King | I Am Forgiven

™ Momentum Rewind | Main Session 2 of 9



Key Passage: Luke 23:32-55

Core Truth: We are forgiven because God loves, not because we're good.

- **™** The thief had **conviction** ("don't you fear God?" v. 40)
- The thief **confessed** his sins ("we did wrong, He did not" v. 41)
- ★ The thief converts into a believer ("remember me" v. 42)
- **I** The thief has **confidence** (Jesus says, "Today you'll be with me" v. 43)

Prompt: It's too easy to believe the narrative that we are essentially good people. We overlook our sin and selfishness. We overstate our good deeds. Fortunately, no amount of good or bad can separate us from God when we ask for His forgiveness. Confession is the key to unlock God's cleansing.

Have your students take a minute to write down their good deeds for the day. After a minute, have them count. Give them a penny for each good deed. Next give them ten seconds to write down one misdeed. When the time is up, explain how one misdeed will cost them a billion dollars. Give them the option to pay up with their pennies or simply ask for forgiveness.

Read Romans 6:23 before starting the video. Let them know Clayton King will talk about forgiveness.

Play: Video of Clayton King, "I Am Forgiven" www.buildmomentum.org/resources.html

Process: Select from the following questions to help students remember, rekindle and reengage.

- Reread Luke 23:32-55 (Crucifixion cf., Matt. 27:32-54; Mark. 15:21-39; John 19:16-37).
- At the very end of his life, Jesus was surrounded by sinners, a thief on either side. **According to Clayton, what is the significance of Jesus having a sinner on either side of Him?**
- Clayton mentions sheep and goats as two responses to God. This notion of Two Responses or Two Ways is consistent in Jesus' teaching (Matthew 7, 25, cf. Psalm 1 and Proverbs 1). **How does it help to think of your life as one of two** directions **rather than a** decision?
- Clayton notes four movements moving the thief from death to life, from condemned to forgiven. What are the four movements? What is a good definition of confession?
- Read 1 John 1:5-9. What does this tell us about confession?
- **What keeps people from confessing sin?** (Think about personal shame, bad theology, etc.)
- Clayton said, "Quit trying to hide your past, your sins. There are no secrets from Jesus. He loves us because He's God, not because we're good." *How easy is it to believe this? How helpful?*
- It is thief did nothing good, but confessed in the eleventh hour and died with confidence in Jesus. What does this tell us about compiling good deeds to earn salvation?

Pray: Have students group up. Encourage them to confess sinful attitudes and actions to one another (or quietly to God). Remind them to thank God for being faithful and just to cleanse them of sin.

Afshin Ziafat | I Am Devoted

™ Momentum Rewind | Main Session 3 of 9



Key Passage: Hebrews 11:1-7

Core Truth: Our belief in God must go beyond information to devotion.

- Faith receives God's Word ("Noah... being warned by God v.6)
- Faith **obeys** God's word ("Noah... in reverent fear" v. 7)
- **★** Faith **perseveres** (Noah built for 20 120 years cf. Genesis 5-9)
- Faith influences ("Noah... for the saving of his household" v. 42)

Prompt: Faith requires sacrifice. Throughout the Bible, God's people gave up land, wealth, relationships, and personal comfort to show their devotion. You might pick several characters (see Hebrews 11) and tell what they sacrificed. Share a personal sacrifice. Ask for a testimony. Then set the stage for Afshin Ziafat, who will tell of his devotion as a former-Muslim and follower of Jesus.

Play: Video of Afshin Ziafat, "I Am Devoted" www.buildmomentum.org/resources.html

Process: Select from the following questions to help students remember, rekindle and reengage.

- Afshin opened by stressing sacrificial devotion. "The call of Christ in your life is not just mentally believing the right things about Jesus. But believing the right things would call you to devotion to let go and lay down our lives and take up our cross."
- Reread Matthew 10:32-39. Jesus' call to devotion meant family life might be disrupted.

 Perhaps Ashfin's story is more dramatic than your students but ask for testimonies of rejection or being disowned. How did Ashfin explain this idea of "hating" family?
- Reread Hebrews 11:6-7 (cf. Genesis 6-7)
- What are the four elements of Noah's devoted faith?
- God's word initiates His work in and through us. It's called a "spiritual seed" and "food" intended to nourish and mature us (see 1 Peter 1:22-2:3). What is the result when we know God's word but fail to obey God's word (see Hebrews 5:11-14)?
- Afshin called the ark an outward manifestation of the inner reality of faith. What did he mean by that? What "arks" have you built and how have others responded to them?
- One year after persevering through the darkest time of his life, God used Afshin's devotion to win his Muslim brother to Jesus. *How has God used your devotion in darkness for His good?*
- "You don't save your friends and family, but you influence them," Afshin said. Why is this distinction important? What may happen if we treat salvation as our job, not God's?
- As he closed Ashfin contrasted Noah with Lot and Event-Oriented Christians with Daily-Devoted Christians. *How is your faith doing since your last Christian event?*

Pray: Have students group up. Encourage them to share about people and places where they are trying to show their devotion to God. Ask students to pray for day-to-day boldness in following Christ.

Afshin Ziafat | I Am Set Apart

™ Momentum Rewind | Main Session 4 of 9



Core Truth: Obey God's clear, moral will *for all believers* rather than obsessing over his mysterious plan *for your life*.

- God wills we **know him intimately** (1 John 3:1-3)
- God wills we are **Spirit-filled** (Ephesians 5:16-18)
- **★** God wills we are **sanctified**/sexually pure (1 Thessalonians 4:3)
- **K** God wills we **suffer** (Philippians 1:29; James 1:2-4; 1 Peter 4:9)

Prompt: We're going to play a game called MASH (see attachment for instructions). The speaker uses this game to illustrate the different approaches to understanding God's will. We tend to view God's will as a specific, mysterious, personal plan for my life OR His general, moral calling on our lives.

After playing the game, stress that being "set apart" relates to the general, moral calling on our lives, which is the topic of Afshin Ziafat's upcoming talk.

Play: Video of Afshin Ziafat, "I Am Set Apart" www.buildmomentum.org/resources.html

Process: Select from the following questions to help students remember, rekindle and reengage.

- In all of his travels, Afshin said the number one question he hears is: What is God's will for my life? *Have you ever asked this? Why do you think this question is so common?*
- Afshin spends a lot of time pushing against the mysterious, personal plan for your life. What do we tend to include in this personal plan? Why does Ashfin push against this?
- While there may be fifty references to "God's clear, moral will for all believers," Afshin mentioned four. What were these four? What are others you can think of?
- What gets in the way of knowing God intimately? Be specific and personal.
- The apostle argues against drunkenness because it edges the Holy Spirit out of our decision-making and will thinking. However, Afshin stressed that alcohol is not the only thing to keep us from being "Spirit-filled." What are parts of your life and culture that edge out the Spirit?
- Sexual sin may be difficult to discuss in mixed company. However, Afshin argued its importance by saying "Sexual immorality is destroying marriages, ministries, churches, and the young person's psyche. The enemy's strategy is to keep it in the dark long enough to devastate you."

 How is this topic addressed by your parents and peers? How have we addressed it here?
- Purity in marriage does not start in the altar, Afshin argued. What boundaries can you set today to set yourself apart for a pure and fulfilling married life?
- Another common question in Christianity is "If God is good, why does he allow suffering?" Afshin mentioned several passages about believers and their suffering. Reread these verses (1 Peter 4:9; Romans 8:28-31; James 1:2-4) and discuss their meaning.

Prayer: Consider having the students share one of the four elements of God's clear, moral will they want to become set apart in. Have the youth leaders pray over them, committing them to God.

Mansion • Apartment • Shack • House • A game about your future

You and a friend will predict your future, based upon four categories. You will determine your future spouse, your future house, your future job, and your future car. After coming up with four choices for each category below, your friend chooses a fifth option, called *The Whammy. Then your friend begins to draw a spiral from the center of the page. Once you say "Stop," you count the number of rotations to determine your magic number (example: 6). Use the magic number (ex. 6) to count off future options, scratching off every nth (ex. 6th). Once there is only one option left in any category, circle it to determine what your future holds. You should have one future house, spouse, job, and car.

NOTE: This does not predict your actual future. Only God knows that!

Future HOUSE		<u>Future SPOUSE</u>
M ansion		1.
A partment		2.
Shack		3.
Home		4.
		5.*
	CALLED BEGINS GREAT	
	spiral	
	here	

<u>Future JOB</u>	<u>Future CAR</u>
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.
5.*	5.*

Christopher Yuan | I Am Holy

™ Momentum Rewind | Main Session 5 of 9



Core Truth: Belief in God must go beyond information to *holy* devotion.

Christopher Yuan shared his testimony of brokenness and sexual sin. Early exposure to pornography and same-sex attraction led him into a homosexual lifestyle. His mother's prayers, time in prison, and an HIV+ diagnosis pushed him toward Jesus. He traded his identity as a homosexual and prisoner for his true identity as a beloved child of God. His story inspires repentance and trust in God.

Prompt: Gender confusion and identity issues seem mainstream. Human sexuality does not define us, but it is an important part of our identity. And it is easy to confusing feelings and attractions for reality. Christopher Yuan's story wrestles with these issues in a very open way. You may have struggled with gender questions. Certainly some of your friends do. We're reviewing his story to start a conversation.

Play: Video of Christopher Yuan, "I Am Holy" www.buildmomentum.org/resources.html

Process: Select from the following questions to help students remember, rekindle and reengage.

- Christopher said, "Satan cannot take away God-given gifts, but he can twist them." He was an Asian minority with intellectual and artistic gifts. How did Satan twist these God-given gifts? How have you seen him twist other God-given gifts?
- Throughout all his struggles, Christopher's mother remained faithful. She prayed and fasted, sent cards and spoke about Jesus. What did it finally take to turn him toward God?
- Read Luke 15:11-32. How does this line up with Christopher's story?
- Christopher saw in both God and his mother a loving response to him. Read Romans 2:4. **How** do we tend to view God after giving into sin? How does this align with Romans 2:4?
- His early encounters with Scripture (e.g., Gospel of Mark, Jeremiah 29:11) proved to Christopher their innate power (Hebrews 4:12). "This is not pen and ink," he said, "but the very breath of God." How has God spoken powerfully to you through His word?
- Christopher provides a list of four lessons he learned as God drew him out of his sexually-oriented identity to his spiritual one. Which of these can you recall? Why are they important?
- **™** Toward the end, Christopher said, "Unconditional love is not the same as unconditional approval of my behavior." This is true, but muddy. Why is the idea so important?
- How do you encounter sexual identity issues in your schools, with peers, and in the media?
- The major thrust of the talk was a call to holiness. Christopher said, "Heterosexuality is not the opposite of homosexuality; holiness is. Holiness is the opposite of all sin. And it is the goal."

 How does a focus on holiness offer greater freedom than a focus on controlling sexual sin?

Pray: Have students divide into small groups. Read Psalm 51:1-12 together. Give them a minute or two of silence. Then take turns praying for one another by name for holiness and sexual purity.

Randall Smith | I Am Purposed

Momentum Rewind | Main Session 6 of 9



Core Truth: As God's possession He has equipped us for His purposes.

- We are His **possession** (1 Peter 2:9)
- ₩ We are His **slaves** (Galatians 1:10)
- ₩ We offer ourselves to His **service** (Romans 12:1)
- We have His **power** to take our **cup** (1 John 4:4)

Prompt: Ask the students to envision a giant toolbox. Then have them consider what tool they would be and why. Depending on the size of the group, you may divide up into smaller clusters. Use this as a setup for Randy Smith's talk on our identity as slaves and tools for God's purposes.

Play: Video of Randy Smith, "I Am Purposed" www.buildmomentum.org/resources.html

Process: Select from the following questions to help students remember, rekindle and reengage.

- Randy pays special attention to the last of four identity markers in 1 Peter 2:9: we are His possession. What difficult metaphor does he use for this possession?
- What are some example in the Bible of people claiming the name slave? [see Galatians 1:10; Philippians. 2:5-9; 2 Timothy 2:24; 2 Peter 1:1]
- Slaves constituted half the population in Jesus' day. They had one purpose: From morning to night, they do the bidding of the master. *How does this imagery apply to serving Jesus?*
- Randy spent time talking about womb imagery in Romans 12:1. How does this womb-imagery help us understand what kind of master God is as we offer him our bodies as a living sacrifice?
- Another image Randy used was the scalpel in the toolbox. *How do you respond to the idea of being used by God?* Explain why you like it or chaff against it.
- Randy shared the story from a Coptic priest talking about one recently beheaded by Isis. The priest said, "The man they killed had followed Jesus for a long time. When they killed him, his life was already not his." *How well do you understand the call to daily bear your cross?*
- Read 1 John 4:4. How does this passage tie into Randy's illustration of the submarine?
- As he closed, Randy preached: "You don't have to do anything to have the world crush you. The fact of the matter is you have to do something to open your heart daily and opening yourself to His presence to keep yourself from being crushed." *How is your daily walk with Jesus?*
- In the final story of Telemachus, Randy showed how one person standing up to say "Stop this!" made a difference. Where do you know you can stand up, speak out and make a difference?

Pray: After having many of the students share a place they can stand up, speak out, and make a difference, invite several youth or leaders pray that "God might do exceedingly abundantly beyond all we ask or think, according the power that works within us" (Ephesians 3:20).

Keith Minier | I Am Real

Momentum Rewind | Main Session 7 of 9



Key Passages: James 3:9; 2 Corinthians 5:15-21

Core Truth: I will choose to be only one for the Only One.

- M Don't become comfortable in your inconsistencies.
- **★** Admit your **failures** to others.
- ₩ Practice restraint

Prompt: Listen to Carry Underwood's song "Jesus Take the Wheel." Ask your students what they think the song reflects about her faith. Ask your students if they know other Carry Underwood songs. Make the connection that you sometimes sing two different kinds of songs: Sunday worship songs and "worldly" midweek songs. Ask your students which type of songs *really* reflects them? Then prepare them for a strong message from Keith Minier about integrity, identity, and our witness.

Play: Video of Keith Minier, "I Am Real" www.buildmomentum.org/resources.html

Process: Select from the following questions to help students remember, rekindle and reengage.

- Reread 2 Cor 5:15-21. What does this passage tell us about God's plan to reach the world?
- Keith uses two Carry Underwood songs to diagnose the problem of "Country Music Walmart Christianity" in the church. What is this major issue in the church? What are other examples?
- The Apostle James condemned the double-minded person (James 1:8; 4:8). He also warns against speaking blessings and curses from the same mouth (James 3:9). Keith called this unrighteous and inconsistent. What are the result of duplicitous faith?
- What do you hear people say about hypocrisy in the church? How do you address it?
- The big idea was "I will choose to be only one for the Only One." What does this mean?
- What were Keith's three ways of 'being only one for the only one'?
- Keith described inconsistency as "a room I didn't belong in." What are these rooms for us?
- How do Christians overcome the stereotype that they think they are perfect? Is this easy?
- When Keith talked about practicing restraint, he said God's glory and mission matter more than our individual freedom. Because we can, doesn't mean we should. *How does this apply to you?*
- Keith closed by saying, "I'm not a follower of Jesus because his followers are consistent, but because He is consistent." *How has Jesus been consistent in your life?* Be specific.
- ₩ Who is your person? What is your pond?

Pray: Have students write down their person and pond. Give them a chance to share this before praying for integrity and opportunity to witness to the Only One.

Rick Cartagena | I Am Changed

Momentum Rewind | Main Session 8 of 9



Core Truth: God changes broken lives to make them His ambassadors.

Rick Cartagena went from stealing cigarettes from his dad to selling drugs on street corners in Philadelphia. Before turning eighteen he was arrested four times and given a fifteen-year sentence. In prison, God changed him. He was "mugged" by God's Spirit. His changed life with Christ led to an early realease from prison and a life of service as Christ's ambassador.

Prompt: Before listening to the dramatic testimony of Rick Cartagena, we will look at another, equally dramatic testimony of the Apostle Paul. Read 1 Timothy 1:12-17. Ask the students to recount some of Paul's sins. Then relay the fact that Paul wrote 13 letters of our NT, planted more than 10 churches, and has shaped Christian faith dramatically. First God had to break him to make him an ambassador.

Let students know Rick Cartagena's testimony will have some "intense" details, but it remains a powerful testimony of how God continues to change lives.

Play: Video of Rick Cartagena, "I Am Changed" www.buildmomentum.org/resources.html

Process: Select from the following questions to help students remember, rekindle and reengage.

- Several times Rick said, "I don't glory in my past. It was a living hell." What were some of the experiences he described?
- Rick said, "When you fail to live life for Jesus, we automatically involve ourselves in things that are inappropriate before our heavenly father. We have a sin nature. Bad choices happen by default." What other factors may have contributed to Rick's reckless choices? How do such factors affect you?
- When you think of such a dramatic turnaround from drug-pushing, gang member to truth-telling ambassador, *how do you feel about your own testimony?*
- Read Ephesians 2:1-10. Thinking especially about the first few verses, how does the Apostle Paul help us see the power of every testimony of faith?
- **K** Read Colossians 1:13-14. Again, what does this passage say about your testimony?
- Rick said, "You don't have to be perfect to share the gospel of Jesus Christ. You have been given the ministry of reconciliation." *How have you seen God use your failures and weaknesses?*
- After his first chapel service in jail, Rick received two Bible studies in the mail. God used His word to break and change him. He said, "[God] set me up. It felt like He entered the room and mugged me. I felt bruised. I felt violated. He flipped me upside-down. Then he offered me hope. He offered me Jesus." Has God ever set you up or used you to set up someone else? Tell.

Pray: Spend time thanking God for changing lives. As a group, encourage students to pray aloud for changes they've seen God do in them. Then have students pray for a person they want God to change.

Jeff Bogue | I Am Sent

Momentum Rewind | Main Session 9 of 9



Key Passages: Matthew 5:13-16; 1 Peter 2:9; Isaiah 6:1-8

Core Truth: Every environment we enter we co-labor with God.

- In every environment we should shine for God (Matt 5:13-16)
- Our priestly duty is to draw people to God (1 Peter 2:9)
- Holy encounters lead to humble repentance which leads to heavenly mercy which leads to us saying: "Here I am. Send me." (Isaiah 6:1-8)

Prompt: This session, Jeff Bogue is going to start with the question, "Where do we go from here?" Later he will ask a series of questions, including, "Why am I in math class? Why do I play football (or another sport)? Why do I have this job? Why did God put me in this family?" Before we hear his answers, let's supply our own. After rereading the last four questions, share what you think.

Once students finish sharing their answers, cue Jeff's session, "I am Sent."

Play: Video of Jeff Bogue, "I Am Sent" www.buildmomentum.org/resources.html

Process: Select from the following questions to help students remember, rekindle and reengage.

- Reread Matthew 5:13-16.
- Jesus uses salt and light to illustrate how the Christ-follower can make an impact in any environment. What are some environments where God has you co-laboring with Him? What are new environments you can enter and serve as salt and light?
- ✓ Jeff explains the role of an Old Testament priest as he discusses our identity as "royal priests." What were some of the priestly responsibilities and what was their main purpose?
- Referring to 1 Peter 2:9, Jeff said, "All followers of Christ are Christ-commissioned priests. We all pastor. We all point people to Jesus." Typically, we view pastors and priests as more holy or important. How does getting rid of this distinction between professional Christians and everyone else help you in your co-laboring with Christ?
- ★ The master-disciple bond (i.e., yoke) was so intimate, Jeff suggested, the disciple was sometimes confused for his master. Could you be confused for Jesus? Explain.
- What are ways you can work with God to transform your church? Your family?
- Reread Isaiah 6:1ff. What is the progression Jeff notes in this passage?
- What was the significance of the laundry room for Jeff?
- **₩** What "laundry room" moments have you experienced?

Pray: Invite the students to spread out, so they have space to fall to their knees or on their faces. Create a quiet space. Ask the kids to ask God where He might be sending them, and if they'll say Yes.