

#CrucialRelationships Proxe Script

1. **Gain their attention.** "What are #crucialrelationships you want to make?" or "Have you had a chance to answer our question today?" or "Do you want to have a real conversation?"
2. **Introduce yourself (ask their name), state your purpose, and ask permission.** "Hi, I'm _____ with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship and we are talking with people today about relationships and how they get messy sometimes and how they might get better. Do you have a few minutes to participate?"
3. **Invite them to put a sticker on an image on Panel 1.** What are crucial relationships that you would like to make this year? That's awesome, when I was a freshman I just wanted _____ (say what you were looking for, i.e. a good roommate, or a boyfriend, etc.).
4. **Introduce Panel 2.** Thank you. Relationships, though wonderful, also tend to get messy. What has been a negative experience you have had recently with a friendship or relationship? Please write it on a post-it note (or have the write just one word describing it). I would love to hear more about that, do you feel comfortable sharing with me about that experience?

I'm so sorry that happened to you. Or that really must've sucked. (There is real hurt, take time to enter into that with the person. Be empathetic.) Would you mind if I prayed for you right now that God would meet you in this and start to bring healing? (take a moment to pray for the person right there. Invite the Holy Spirit to come and bring healing and comfort.)

Thank you for sharing that. And not all experiences are negative, can you think of a positive experience you've had recently with a friend or relationship?

5. **Transition to Panel 3.**

There's a story in the Bible about some guys who did something amazing for a friend who was sick. There were 4 guys who had a friend that was a paraplegic. And they heard about someone who might be able to heal him, Jesus. But they couldn't get to him because there were so many people. So they actually ripped the roof off of a stranger's house to get this guy to Jesus. (Invite them to read the text conversation on the Panel).

- a) Why do you think those guys went through so much trouble for their friend?
- b) Why did Jesus address the sin issue instead of the obvious problem?
- c) Jesus thought his relationship with God was a #crucialrelationship that needed fixed. His friends were key in helping him find healing for that. What needs fixed in your relationship with God?

6. **Share the gospel.** These 5 friends must've had a deep loving community. With InterVarsity we want to be these friends for each other and provide a place where people can encounter God in their messiness as well. Can I share with you how God brings healing to your life and restoration in your #crucialrelationships through the story of Jesus?

7. **Invite them to respond.**

- a) Follow Jesus. His invitation is for you to come to him right now and He will begin to fix your relationship with Him as you begin to care about His purposes in the world.
- b) Come into community. You are welcome here, no matter what you think or believe. Because Jesus has forgiven us, nothing makes people more loving.

What would it take for you to join this community and follow Jesus right now?

Circle 1

1. This circle represents how God wants us to experience life. He created us for **right relationship** with him, with each other, and to do meaningful work in the world. Things were **perfect!** Everyone was happy. No selfishness, no mess, no hurt.
2. But we thought we could do better ourselves. We told God to "shove it," and decided to **find our own way** to meet our needs and find happiness.
3. This ends badly for us. Because of our selfishness, we actually experience death and not life. This is a mess.

Circle 2

1. In order to talk about #crucialrelationships, we have to take a good look at our world. We have war, famine, child abuse, teen suicide, drug addiction, and so on.
2. As we look at the world around us, we see the results of putting ourselves at the **center** of the story. Our **choices**, including our relationships, give us control that we probably shouldn't have. Turns out, we are all very selfish people and we are not very good at playing God.
3. By focusing so much on ourselves, we have caused messiness and hurt in relationships and are separated from God. This is a sad story. Where are you **dissatisfied** with the world around us, or in your personal life?

Circle 4

1. Part of the life that God offers us is to be **difference-makers** in our hurting world. We get to share God's hope in a world full of messiness and despair. But the path to serving the world is through laying down our lives in service, and **service** sometimes feels like suffering or dying to ourselves. Jesus promises that as we lay down our lives for his sake, he will give us **true life**, that satisfies now and lasts forever. Life with purpose, love, hope, joy, and depth.
2. Unfortunately, many Christians often stay in the 3rd circle, happy to be loved by God, but not offering this life to others. **Meaning** and **love** are found by **giving our lives away**, not living for ourselves, even when it comes to our relationships.
3. It also means joining with a **community** of people who follow Jesus to be God's hands and feet, bringing hope to a messy, selfish, dysfunctional world.

Circle 3

1. God could have easily given up on us and left us to the **consequences** of our decision. But **God loved us** enough to get involved through Jesus.
2. Jesus came to show us that he knows us, and he sees our desires and our needs. But in order for God to be back at the center of the story, Jesus had to deal with our **rebellion** and our desire for control.
3. Jesus took my selfishness on himself on the cross. **Through his death and coming back to life**, he opens the door to **transformation** in our lives.
4. We **invite** Jesus into our dissatisfaction, and we trust him today and for the rest of our lives to meet our needs. We have a **choice** to make with this most important #crucialrelationship. We have to decide to let Jesus influence all areas of our lives, even our relationships with others.