

Leader's Guide for the 1 Month Challenge

#1MonthChallenge

Welcome to the 1 Month Challenge!

1 Month, initially started as a challenge to carry and read the Bible and can be so much more! Chose from the following ideas and live them out for 1 Month:

- Pray Pray over your lunch everyday, or ask a person each day if you can pray with them about something.
- Live Carry your bible everywhere and read it daily in a public setting. (The Original 1 Month idea)
- Tell Invite at least one person to church each week, or tell someone once a week what God is doing in your life.
- Serve Write a kind/encouraging note to someone each week, or ask your teacher/coach/pastor how you can help during the week.
- Give Buy someone lunch once a week, or give away/donate something to someone in need.
OR Wear the same Christian t-shirt everyday for 1 Month and raise money for missions or an important cause. Yes, your mom can wash the shirt. Gather sponsors to donate every day you wear that shirt.

The key to these ideas and resources is flexibility - adapt them to meet the needs of your group and keep it simple. Use these resources anytime of the year. The 1 Month challenge works well at the beginning of the school year and serves as a great build-up to the See You At The Pole prayer event, but it can also be used as a lead up to Christmas or Easter as an evangelism tool, or at the end of the year to grab students' attention before summer vacation hits.

So, read the rest of this guide (and the resources associated), pick a month, and begin to dream about what God will do in your students' lives.

In this guide –

Sermon Ideas (courtesy of Pastor Jeremy Moore), pages 2-5

Why Stop after 1 Month?!, pages 6,7

Resources available at yausa.com/1month –

1 Month Trailer (15 sec)

1 Month Challenge Video (2 min 30 sec)

1 Month Art Package (includes graphics and posters you can customize)

1 Month Photos for Facebook, Instagram and Twitter use the hash-tag: #1MonthChallenge

Start Conversations Online about 1 Month

Find [1 Month](#) on Facebook and share your experiences, post your photos of doing your 1 Month efforts! Got questions? You can ask those, too. Use the hash-tag: #1MonthChallenge.

Share our 1 Month photos on your Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts and start conversations online.

One Month Sermon Ideas

We Won't Be Silent

Courtesy of Jeremy Moore

Lesson 1 – We Won't Be Silent In Our **Speech**

-Key Verse: Romans 1:16 – “For I am not ashamed of the Gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes.”

Objective – To encourage students to share their faith LOUDLY wherever they go.

1. Game – Something to do with shouting, telling others, keeping something in, etc.
 - Repeat after me (shout out something and have the students repeat it)
2. Media – pictures of telling others, shouting from the rooftop, shouting out loud.
3. Dare – Share your faith with at least 2 people every month.
 - a. Within one year, students will have witnessed to at least 24 individuals.
 - b. Don't just wait for verbal opportunities, help create them; be bold in witnessing without being obnoxious.
 - sports (create opportunities to witness)
 - home/ family (dinners, reunions, holidays)
 - school (look for opportunities in classrooms, at lockers)
4. Issue the One Month Challenge here, show the Challenge video (2:30)
 - Carry your Bibles everywhere for one whole month including:
 - a. Schools (must be visible, NO lockers or backpacks)
 - b. Mall
 - c. Grocery and/or department stores
 - d. Movie theaters
 - e. Friend's house

Really emphasize the importance of this challenge. If you want to see your students grow in their boldness and excitement about sharing their faith, this is the challenge for you. This challenge has a two-fold mission. First, it will get your students used to being asked questions about their faith and build up their courage to answer questions about why they are a Christian. Carrying their Bibles around with them will create conversations with friends and family giving your students the opportunity to witness that they would not normally have. Second, it forces your students to think twice about watching, saying, or doing something they shouldn't when their Bible are right there beside them. Right? Some of your students may only perform SOME of the challenge, or just simply forget their Bibles on certain days. Guess what? It's ok! Encourage them to do their best and remember... We Won't Be Silent!

One Month Sermon Ideas

We Won't Be Silent

Lesson 2 – We Won't Be Silent In Our **Worship**

-Key Verse: 1 Peter 3:15 – “You must worship Christ as the Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your Christian hope, always be ready to explain it”.

Objective – Encourage students to worship and praise God LOUDLY in every area of their lives

1. Game – Something that requires the use of the students' whole bodies

2. Message –

a. Why is it hard sometimes to lift our hands, bow down, or to pray aloud?

i. Embarrassed? (afraid to look foolish)

ii. Ashamed?

iii. We think we're above it?

iv. Feels uncomfortable?

b. Use the example of how the students didn't mind using their whole bodies in the game yet shut down when it comes to worshipping Christ.

c. Before we can tell others our story about what Christ has done, or who He is, in our lives we have to make sure OUR (students who are witnessing) lives are above reproach.

When we are living lives of physical and mental worship, we are directed to individuals God wants us to witness to. God orchestrates opportunities for us to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As we spend time with Him, we will know Him better and it will be easier to spot opportunities to share Jesus.

You might be wondering here, “What does worship have to do with this Bible challenge?” It's simple, not only are we as leaders supposed to train our students to worship with our lips, hands, and songs, but also with our lives. Living out a Christ-like life is an act of worship. As our students carry their Bibles with them, their boldness increases and a desire for knowing more of God will follow. Your students will begin to pray more, read more, and witness more. Then, watch as they begin to worship more in every area of their lives. **If you want to encourage your students to live a life of worship, you need to do it as well. Your students WILL follow you. Lead by EXAMPLE!**

One Month Sermon Ideas

We Won't Be Silent

Lesson 3 – We Won't Be Silent In Our Lives

Objective – To teach students to live their lives for Christ LOUDLY by being strong leaders in their schools (joining a Christian campus club and/or starting one, committing to be a Campus Missionary, playing sports, etc.), getting involved in their communities, feeding the poor, going on missions trips, etc.

1. Video – What Happened To Anguish by David Wilkerson (youtube.com)

-The video is a little over 7 min long, so you'll have to plan your timing accordingly.

2. Message – Question and Discussion w/ students

a. If you saw a friend about to be struck by a vehicle and you had the ability to either grab them or warn them in some way...would you? Of course you would! Why, then, do we walk by our friends every single day - knowing they don't have a relationship with Christ - and refuse to share our faith with them? Some of our friends even know we are a Christian, still we never say a word about Christ. So, we care about their physical safety, but not their spiritual security?

b. Discuss how we should ache and anguish over our friends, family members, and neighbors who don't have a relationship with Christ.

c. Incorporate an analogy of physically saving a friends life to spiritually saving their life. Share some of the opportunities you have had to share Christ with others but never did. We think, "Living my life in front of others is good enough." But now, we have to live with the fact that maybe we were the one God ordained to share Christ with them, but never did. Encourage your students to take advantage of every opportunity.

By this week, the students are more than half way through the Bible challenge. They should be past the jitters and nervousness, and getting used to not leaving home without their Bibles. Be listening for students who say things like, "It's like I'm forgetting something if I don't have it with me". This lesson could potentially be the most important in the series during the challenge, because students are less attentive with their witnessing knowing they only have one week left. So, deliver the 1-2 punch and encourage (almost DARE) your students to finish strong with the challenge and to look for every opportunity to share their faith!

We pray the altar this night will be flooded with students weeping to Christ that they will **NOT BE SILENT IN THEIR LIVES!!!**

One Month Sermon Ideas **We Won't Be Silent**

The Wrap Up!!!

Lesson 4 – We won't be silent in our **Testimonies**

CONGRATULATIONS!!! YOU MADE IT!!

This lesson is really not a lesson at all. Take this opportunity to celebrate a great accomplishment and finishing the challenge. Have a party and even get a cake that says, "Congrats on the Bible Challenge". (Who knows, it may even open yet another opportunity to witness to the bakery person. Haha!)

Your students just faced debates, mocking, witnessing scenarios, lots of questions forcing them into increase prayer and devotional life, and even days of, "Oh God, help me to be bold!" Remember, they're still in school after the challenge.....you're not!

Many students may want to continue the challenge. Some may not. "Triple-dog dare" them to keep it up. (But, you need to have a pretty good relationship with your students to declare the ultimate "triple dog" dare.)

Take this opportunity to wrap up anything else that you might want to add to the series, however, let your students lead this lesson by sharing their experiences during the challenge. Make it an open mic session. Hopefully, you'll have new converts in your youth group who gave their lives to Christ through the challenge that can give an awesome testimony.

God bless and God's best for the **WE WON'T BE SILENT** series and **The One Month Challenge!**

Legal Info on the 1 Month Bible idea: Can I legally carry my bible to school?

YES! Students' First Amendment rights include the right to distribute Gospel tracts during non-instructional time, the right to wear shirts communicating Christian messages and symbols, and the right to pray and discuss matters of religion with others. Further, schools may not prevent students from bringing their Bibles to school. In fact, school officials must allow students to read their Bibles during free time, even if that free time occurs during class. The standard that must be applied by the school is: Does the activity "materially or substantially disrupt school discipline?" Unless a student is disruptive, the school must refrain from interfering with their religious activities. - **ACLJ letter on literature distribution and evangelism by students in schools**, [available here](#). Additional student legal rights resources can be found in the [Legal section](#) on the Resources page at www.yausa.com.

Why Stop after 1 Month?!

As a youth leader, it can be difficult when you come off this type of an extended effort. You find yourself thinking "now what? How can we continue the momentum?" How can you help your students continue to show and share the love of Christ for the rest of this school year...and perhaps, the rest of their lives?

Here are two proven and effective methods:

1. Campus Missions – students reaching students.

For students in grades 6-12, learn more ideas about how to Pray, Live, Tell, Serve and Give. Sounds like a good fit for any student who accepted the 1 Month Challenge, right?! Read more at www.yausa.com/campusmissionary

2. Youth Alive Clubs

Youth Alive Clubs allow young people to bring their individual talents, passions and abilities together with other believers to demonstrate and share the love of Christ as a group. Find out how to get started and download resources for campus clubs at www.yausa.com/campusclubs