

Choosing two teams: We want to divide the group equally...we need two Captains tonight. Probably the two oldest male teens, one of them will get a pie in his face on Thursday Night! We need home and visitors equally on each team! Dennis will meet with the Captains tomorrow!

Now, the Possible and Impossible: We want the Home team to do this, first we need someone that can write legible on the black board. Everyone has pencil and paper. Now write the name of the teens who you think it is possible they will come! They had a long list. Now number each name! Dennis, count off starting with you and including the adults. The name along your number is yours to pray for. These are the Possibles, those we are pretty sure will come if they get a ticket!

Now we do the same thing for the Impossible: These are teens that you know, at school...in your families, where ever, you know there is just no way the names on this list will ever come near a Church. This list was much longer than the first. Now write on your paper the name along side your number. This person is your responsibility to pray for. These are the impossibles, the names of teens who absolutely won't come anywhere near this Church. We need to Pray for these people! It looks pretty bleak for them because we don't have signs out on poles, nothing in the newspapers about Youtharama. That's too bad for these teens! Almost with one voice they shouted, "We have tickets!" "We are going to be asking God for a lot of things this week, let's

not ask Him to write their names in the sky to let them know about it, when you guys have tickets!" Before we go to the Prayer Room, I want to make a promise to you, "At the end of this week we will See and Know that God answers Prayer!" We all went to the Prayer room and the Pastor heard some of his own teens pray aloud!

At the Sunday School opening Dennis had arranged for three of the visiting team to give testimonies! Plus three more at Church time. We had lunch at the homes where we were staying! Suse and I were staying with the oldest Elder and his wife, we got along very well, but Suse could charm anybody! These folks were early to bed and early risers. Youtharama wasn't geared to that so they loaned us a key!

We arrived on time to prepare for our spontaneous meeting, let me assure you that there isn't anything about this meeting that is spontaneous, it only looks that way! I had noticed that in the first meetings that I saw, everytime the announcer or master of ceremonies announced a name or something they were going to do, some of the kids left. (Many were afraid of being in a non-Catholic Church Building.)

In the later ones that Dot and I were in charge, we practiced to have our meeting look spontaneous. No stops, no announcements, if someone missed their que the next person jumped in and that portion was missed. We didn't have people sneaking out either!

Dennis had his teams all lined up and advised the group that this was for a mock competition only! Dennis had most of the short Youtharama planned. I had suggested that he give the ten minute Evangelistic message, two of the visiting team and one home team for testimonies, a couple duets, a skit and a Message!

We showed the Congregation what we called a spontaneous meeting. Then we showed them how it worked! Before the meeting the entire team was sitting in a group. I called, "Six oclock!" The team group assigned to it, stood up and walked to the front of the Church and yelled "Volley Ball." One of that group explained that we are to have fun and make a lot of noise on good plays.

I call again, "Six oclock!" Two boys and two girls stand up and and a boy and girl say "Greeters Front," the two others called out, "Greeters Side," then one of them explained what their job was, "We are on the opposite side of the street waiting for Lookee-Lou's! Teens who want to see if there is anyone there that they know, we introduce ourselves (first or nick names only) we tell them about the games and skits we will be doing and encourage them to come over and join the fun. We take them over to the volley ball game an introduce them to someone. If it is a personal friend I will stay and some one will take my place as a greeter!"

I explained, "Before we had greeters many young people walked by and never came over. My personal belief is that the greeters

have the most difficult job on Youtharama! They have to stand out there and wait until someone comes along. It is not so bad for the girls if they have a good looking guy to stand with, but...I'm sorry we didn't bring any of those!"

From that point on Dennis ran the meeting as he did the rest of the week. Most of the adults seemed very pleased seeing some of their own young people being involved, especially the young lady who gave her testimony. After refreshments and the Congregation had left we had our Sharing, Evaluation and Prayer time! Some of the home teens prayed for courage at the calling with tickets on the next day.

The next morning everyone was on time and some were nervous. Then we had the Bible study that the Pastor told me was not a Bible Study. You know my answer and just a little more on that subject. I never used a Pastor for a Bible Study when there is a big day with a lot of nervousness ahead of the group. Most Pastors would have bored the young people to death. First John 1st. Chapter has only ten verses but these teens were living God's Word and His promises, not just listening to it! On this day what they really needed was God's Word made alive to them to bring courage and dependence not only on the Word but on Him personally!

Dennis split the two teams into four small groups, some visitors in each group, then assigned each group to one quarter of the

town. He then explained that the next day they would be in a different quarter sector. That makes it possible for someone to receive four tickets from four different people!

I explained the ground rules: Stay fairly close together, in sight of each other at all times, some on each side of the street. DO NOT...go into any home...you must keep up with the team! If you see a teenager tell him or her about Youtharama and give a ticket, it's O.K. if they would like more tickets for friends. Go up to a house and if an adult answers your knock, ask if they have teenagers. Give them as many tickets as they have teens! Use your own good judgement at all times! Do not put any cards in any Public places, stores, gas stations etc. Dot and I will be driving around...not to check on you but to see that you are O.K.! Don't wave to us or act like you know us...unless you have trouble! Dennis will go with a different group each day. Be back here at 11:30! Dennis led in Prayer and away they went, Suse and I waited about fifteen minutes and started driving around!

They all arrived back near the appointed time and almost everyone had something to tell. Suse and I had a difficult time trying to keep them from telling until we were having lunch together!

When everyone was accounted for, Dennis gave thanks for the food and our safety! Then he asked if anyone had any thing to share? Almost every hand went up and some yelled, "Me first!"

Dennis showed his maturing leadership by saying, "To settle the problem of who is first, I'll go first and then we will go one at a time around the circle so we all can hear." What a joyful time, some told how scared they were and how their confidence grew after they knocked on the first door! Others about meeting some one they knew and how good they felt about being on the team. Bob & Daryl said they took turns talking after they met someone! They all had a great time!

One thing I forgot to mention was, the requirement to be on the Youtharama was to be fluent in the Four Spiritual Laws! I mentioned to Dennis that we would soon be seeing the home team studying their little booklets now they felt sure someone would be coming to the meetings!

The team had recreation time until 2:00 pm. Dennis and I chose the team. Suse had been checking the girls for singing, solos, duets and trios. Bev played the piano when they practiced and during the meeting. Jesse being a natural leader was really good with games and stunts to play on the guests that night, I saw great promise in him for the summer! Suse helped with the young man that was going to bring the message. When the team was ready to rehearse I did the calling of the time!

Dennis walked them thru a few times, then I took over with this notice! Dress code for tonight...dress for what you are going to be doing. We don't want any of our guests to feel ill at

ease. "Girls...I know you are all beautiful but this is not a beauty contest. Dress for the job...if you are in doubt ask Dot"! Now lets see how spontaneous you are. It's 6:00 oclock! It took three or four run throughs because they didn't know where the items in their parts were located. They didn't realize I would ask questions..."VOLLEY BALL...WHERE'S THE BALL?" I received a few "Oops" and a lot of scurrying around for their props, music, items for skits, they had to know where whatever they were going to use was located, so they could put their hands on it immediately when needed. This was a shocker to most of them. After a couple false starts we had it down pat! I took the authority position and told them all to be back here for the evening meal at five oclock. We must be thru and cleaned up by 6:00.

The women of the Church did a great job of feeding us on time and it was easy to see that they were excited also. Every thing went according to schedule, Volley ball...Greeters...and the most critical part of all was getting everyone inside...a good number of them seemed to think they would be struck dead going into a Protestant Church! They seemed relieved when it didn't happen! It helped when we didn't go inside immediately. There was laughter, yelling, foot stamping, singing and applause!

When that portion was over they went in for the refreshments. They had paired off very nicely, boys with boys...girls with girls near their own ages. Suse and I made some mental notes

for those who were not witnessing to be in the Prayer Room! What a time it was at the Evaluation Meeting! Almost as many from the Impossibles as there were from the Possibles! What a sharing and Prayer meeting we had! I had to cut it off, it had been a long day and at many of the homes they also would want to hear about the day!

The rest of the week went about the same only better! But we still had a lesson or two to be given. Some of the young people were kind of cocky because they had led someone to the Lord! Thursday morning I spent some time at our "Bible Study" to remind the team of some things! I asked a lot of questions about how many people they had praying for them, they came up with some pretty large numbers...what about the homes we were staying in...the elders letting us do this...the women preparing our meals...the money and expenses...was there any one thing that we could have done without to make this a successful week! No? Then everyone and everything was necessary for some of you to have the privilege, joy and responsibility of leading someone to Christ! Everyone we mentioned was necessary for each of us being here! God gave some of you a very special gift don't ever forget it.

We only had a short time to do calling! We had lunch and I told them, today we are changing the schedule, Dennis will give you your assignments. In a half hour after we do a good run thru we will have our recreation time. After we were letter perfect

Dennis told them that someone in the Church had made arrangements for us to have the school swimming pool to ourselves! Wow! What noise, we all had a ball!

When we about to leave the pool we gathered them together and I reminded them that we have enjoyed ourselves and we should thank the school and the people who arranged for the pool for us. Then I reminded them, "Today we haven't done the jobs we promised for today! We will soon find out who has us here this week. I suggest that each of us find time this afternoon to be alone with the Lord! Ask him to forgive us and help us have a good group tonight. I think we will all find out who is leading us."

We had a great meeting that night, more teens than we had prepared for. I felt more at ease when I saw five or six men of the Church looking in the windows.

What a Sharing Meeting that night, Dennis led it by asking who was in charge to night...almost with one voice we heard three names, GOD, JESUS, LORD, but they all are one! There was not a person in the room that hadn't seen God answer a Prayer of their own. We almost had to force them to go home at twenty minutes to twelve!

We had changed our meeting time on Good Friday morning to give us a little time to pack! It was an exhausting week but everyone

would want to do it again.

I was very thankful for the men that were outside on Thursday night. The mock contest was a Pie in the Face Contest, the winner had the privilege of hitting the loser with a pie in his face. We had a plan but it was a little slow in action. We forgot there would be partially on the part of the local town boys. When the local boy got the pie in his face it was O.K. but according to our plan he was to go out to wash his face and bring another pie in. He was a little slow coming back and the visiting team member was supposed to strut around like a Pro Wrestler. While he was doing this the booing began and continued until the local member came in on tiptoe, his finger to his lips and pushed the pie in the visitors face. For me it was a tense moment but it turned out great.

I discovered that we hardly had a meeting at the Church that morning. I found this to be the way all of our Youtharama's ended. The girls hugging and crying and the guys acting like it didn't bother them one bit. That is until Dot started hugging the Home team boys. Then, they all wanted to be hugged! Then a standard practice for the guys, they got in a circle, with their arms on each others shoulders and making wild noises in mock crying, making fun of the girls!

As we got in the cars there was one basic question...where are we going to eat? After eating good home cooking for a week we

got what was be our standard answer! "Mac Donalds."

We all arrived at our home, and families picked them up here!
When every one had left, I asked Suse, "Would you like to go
thru that again?" She gave me a withering look, "Yes, but not
today!"