



**NOVEMBER'S THEME  
BRANDED**

**SCRIPTURE** 1 Cor. 3:1-9

**BOTTOM LINE** Our brand is unified

**MEMORY VERSES** 1 Cor. 3:9

**LIFE APP** Together we can do more



• Tonight we will start differently. The kids will be held in the hallway outside of the sanctuary, then brought in for an exercise that shows our unity in Christ. Students will also be encouraged to join faith clubs at their school. Make sure that you give them time to sign up after worship.

**MY GOAL FOR THE NIGHT:**



This month we will work through a series called "Branded." The heart of this series is that everything and everyone has a brand that they are known for. It is the association people make when they experience them. What about the church? What is our brand identity? This week we'll look at one aspect of our brand; that we are unified. Since the beginning of the church, Christians have struggled with maintaining unity. That is why one of the lessons that we have had to hear over and over again is that we are all unified in our faith in Jesus. We have the same issues today. Christians are divided over issues, beliefs, and experiences but if we are to be truly effective in our witness, we must be unified.

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- What were the groups that you split into during the opening exercise? What did you find to be surprising about this activity? Have you ever considered the way that our faith in Jesus trumps our differences? Why or why not?
- What would you say people identify as the brand of Christianity? To what degree do you agree or disagree with those opinions? How do you influence the opinions people have about Christianity? Do you?
- READ: 1 Corinthians 3:1-9. What would you say is the core of the disagreement they are having? Have you ever experienced such a disagreement with other Christians? Do you think that it is younger Christians or older Christians who tend to disagree like this?
- What does it mean to you to say that "we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building"? Have you considered thinking about the church in this way?
- What does it mean to be "called to connect"? How have you seen this at Prince of Peace? Do you think that we are doing a good job of being the "connecting church"? What do you think we could do to be even better?
- How do you think StuMin can be more unified? What are the divisions that separate StuMin that you think focusing on Jesus can address?
- What would you say your personal brand is as a Christian? So, say you added the fact that you are a Christian to your profile, what would you hope people understood by that?

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# EXTRAS

## YARN WEB

**What You Need:** Spool of Yarn, balloon or ball-pit ball

**What you Do:** Have the group stand in a circle. Give each participant a situation card. Make a loop in the end of the yarn or string and hold it. Toss the ball of yarn to someone across the circle (*it will unwind as it goes*). Have that person loop the yarn around a finger, then toss the ball to someone else in the circle. Each person, in turn, should catch the ball of yarn, loop it around a finger, and then toss it to someone else. As the ball unwinds, it creates a web of interconnection. It's okay for people to get the ball more than once. Continue until everyone has gotten the ball at least once and the web is nicely filled in (*or you run out of yarn, whichever comes first*). The web-building has ended, play with the web a bit. Have people move it up and down. You could even drop an inflated balloon or ball-pit ball onto the web and bounce it around. Experiment with what happens if one person pulls strongly on the yarn he or she holds. Next invite someone to let go of the yarn. Watch what happens to the web. Then have someone across the circle from the first person let go of the yarn. One by one, have random people around the circle let go of the yarn. The web will gradually lose shape, form, connection, and life. When the web is lying on the floor, ask everyone to sit down and discuss what has occurred.

### Debrief Questions:

- When the web was created and we were playing with it, in what ways was it like the dynamic community of humanity?
- What happened to the web when the first person let go of the yarn? The next person? How is that like what happens when people are excluded from a community?
- As more and more people dropped the yarn, what happened to the web? How did this affect its usefulness (*or playfulness*)?
- What lesson for community living could you draw from this exercise?

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# JUST FOR FUN

## HELIUM HOOP

**What You Need:** Hula Hoop

**What You Do:** Have your group stand around the hula hoop. Balancing the hoop on the middle of their index finger, they must work as a group to lower the hoop to the ground evenly. The trick is that their finger must maintain contact with the bottom of the hoop at all times. Hands must stay parallel with the ground and participants cannot hook the hoop/pole.

**Facilitator Note:** The beauty of this game is its simplicity. In order to maintain contact with the hula hoop, participants will try to push up on the hula hoop which causes the hoop to rise (*as if filled with helium*) instead of being lowered to the ground. With trust, communication, and strategy the group will be successful in finding balance together!

**Goal:** Teamwork!