Goal for the Life Night
This night is about God’s love and mercy poured out though the Sacrament of Reconciliation. By explaining what happens in Reconciliation and answering the teens’ questions, this night will move teens past excuses and fear into the forgiveness and freedom from sin. Finally, this night will encourage teens to frequent the Sacrament of Reconciliation on a regular basis.

Life Night at a Glance
Many teens are hesitant and uneasy about the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This night serves to dispel any fear or excuses the teens have toward Reconciliation. The night begins with a short skit trying to open the locked meeting room doors. The teaching looks at how sin severs our relationship with God, but His mercy and forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation opens the doors to love. The teaching will lead into a time where the teens will have an opportunity to pray, reflect and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The night will close with prayer and recitation of the Act of Contrition.

Environment
The environment for this night should be kept quiet and prayerful. The room should be dimly lit with candles and low house lights, pillows on the floor, a cross in the middle of the room and three different prayer stations—letter writing, rosary, and Scripture meditation. The cross should be lit up with a spotlight the whole night. Each station should have at least one Core member assigned to it. Have the letter writing station set up with tables and chairs. Have plenty of paper and pens available for the teens to write the letters. The rosary station should have rosaries and a “how to” rosary guide for those teens who are not familiar with praying the rosary. The Scripture station should be set up with plenty of pillows and Bibles. Have a Scripture reflection guide available for the teens to use to reflect on the themes of forgiveness, mercy and grace. The rest of the Core should set an example of prayer for the rest of the night. Have at least two Reconciliation stations set up in the back corners of the room.

GATHER 7 Minutes

Welcome and Introductions (5 min)
As the teens gather into the Life Night the doors to the main meeting room should be locked. It possible, have a big chain and lock around the door handles. Have a big sign on the door that says “Closed.” If there are windows on the door, black them out with paper or a sheet. Gather all the teens and have them find a seat outside the door. The youth minister should welcome all the teens to Life Night and introduce any teens at Life Night for the first time.

The Party: Episode 5 (2 min)
This semester features a reoccurring video series called “The Party.” Each Life Night of this semester features a new episode in which a teen hosts a party and the guests are personifications of the seven sacraments. These short videos are designed to introduce the teaching for each Life Night in the semester. In Episode 5, the fourth guest, Connie (representing Reconciliation), arrives. The person giving the talk can point out the following ways that she represents the sacrament:

- The name “Connie” – for Confession
- Carrying cleaning supplies
- Encourages cleaning
- Sees stains that no one else can see

The Party: Episode 5 can be found on Video Support 5

PROCLAIM 15 minutes

“Doors are Locked!” Skit (5 min)
Present a brief skit with a few teens and Core members trying to open the doors on their own terms and with their own power.

“The Doors are Locked” Skit can be found on pages 70-71.
Teaching  (10 min)
Because this teaching will be done outside the main meeting room, make sure that all the teens will be able to hear the presenter. Also, make sure that the teaching is brief so there is plenty of time for Reconciliation.

Teaching can be found on pages 65-69.

At the end of the teaching, the youth minister should unlock the doors and allow the teens to come into the room where they will experience the power of God’s love and mercy.

BREAK  40 minutes

Examination of Conscience  (5 min)
To make a good confession it is necessary to spend a few minutes in personal reflection on the sins we’ve committed. The examination of conscience helps us become aware of those sins that we do not think about—gossip, lying, lust. When we look at our lives and ask the Spirit to reveal the areas that are not glorifying God, we are able to bring those into God’s mercy and make a better and more complete confession. Pass out copies of the examination to each teen. Allow the teens to spend a few minutes in prayer and reflection with the examination of conscience.

Examination of Conscience can be found on page 72.

A video examination loop can be found on the Optical Resource DVD #4 (O.R. 4).

The Sacrament of Reconciliation  (35 min)
Invite two of your parish priests (or more if possible – ask priests from the surrounding community as well) to be available for Reconciliation and encourage your teens to go to the sacrament during the night. Have three prayer stations set up for the teens to spend time in different types of personal prayer. Take a few minutes to explain each station. Begin the time with an opening prayer. To help keep the environment prayerful have light music playing in the background. The Core should be approachable for questions and prayer if the teens need to talk during this time. Allow the teens to go between the different stations, or simply wait in line for Confession. Encourage each teen to take this opportunity to encounter God in this sacrament.

PRAYER STATION #1: FORGIVENESS LETTER
The Sacrament of Reconciliation is two-fold—receiving God’s forgiveness and forgiving ourselves. Often we also need to ask for forgiveness from someone we have wronged whether it is our parents, sister, brother, friend or peer. The purpose of this station is to give the teens an opportunity to write that person they have wronged and ask for their forgiveness. Challenge the teens to give/mail the letter to the person in the next week.

PRAYER STATION #2: ROSARY
What a better example of holiness than Mary our Mother! As the one who was conceived without sin, it is only appropriate that we turn to Mary and seek her intercession and guidance in our pursuit of holiness. Give the teens an opportunity to pray the rosary. Have rosaries available for the teens to use as well as a “how to” guide for those teens who are not familiar with this type of prayer. A Rosary "how to" guide can be found at: www.newadvent.org/images/rosary.pdf.

PRAYER STATION #3: SCRIPTURE REFLECTION
Often we forget that the Word of God is living and active. The Scriptures can transform and renew our lives as profoundly as an encounter with the Eucharist. The purpose of this station is to give teens the opportunity to dive into God’s Word on forgiveness, mercy and grace. Encourage the teens to spend a few minutes letting God’s living Word speak to their hearts. Have plenty of Bibles available for the teens to use as well as copies of the Scripture study guide. Have pens available for the teens to mark specific verses on their reflection guides.

The Scripture Reflection Guide can be found on pages 73-74.
SEND 5 Minutes

**Act of Contrition**  (5 min)

Once the majority of teens (depending on time) have had a chance to go to Reconciliation, gather the group back together. If teens are still in line for Reconciliation allow them to stay in line. Recap the teaching on Reconciliation focusing on God’s mercy and grace offered to us in the sacrament. Explain to the teens that the final part of making a good confession is the Act of Contrition. This prayer helps us acknowledge that we are sorry for our sins and we need God’s help to not commit them again. The Act of Contrition is a wonderful prayer that should become a part of our daily prayer lives. We should always be seeking God’s forgiveness and mercy. Project the words onto a screen. Have the youth minister lead the teens in prayer and the Act of Contrition. Follow the prayer with a song like “You Know Who I Am” by Matt Maher (found on the album *End and the Beginning* (OCP)). Close the night with the Hail Mary and Ave Maria.

**RECONCILIATION CARDS**

As the teens leave Life Night give each one a card with the days and times of Reconciliation at the parish. On the back of the card have the Act of Contrition written out for them to keep. Challenge the teens to place the cards in their wallets or somewhere they will see them everyday.

**Act of Contrition**

O my God,
I am heartily sorry for having offended You,
and I detest all my sins,
because I dread the loss of heaven,
and the pains of hell;
but most of all because they offend You, my God, Who is all good and deserving of all my love.
I firmly resolve,
with the help of Your grace,
to confess my sins,
to do penance,
and to amend my life.
Amen.

**Community Connection**

- Use Facebook to advertise this night to the teens.
- If the Confirmation age in your diocese is during high school, this would be a great Life Night to invite those preparing for Confirmation to come to.
- Ask parents to provide food for the end of this Life Night.

**Making It Work**

- If your group is small and won’t take up the whole 35 minutes for Reconciliation, add a time of small group questions before moving into Reconciliation.
- Ask your parish priest and any priests from the surrounding area to join you for this night well in advance. The more priests you have, the better the night will run.
- If you cannot start the Life Night outside your usual meeting space, create a large “locked door” at the front of the room and use that for the Gather skit.
When we look at the door with the chains on it, there is no way for us to enter. It seems almost impossible. The ironic thing is that we’re the ones responsible for the chains. Even though we have put the chains on, we do not know how to take them off again.

What do you imagine is on the other side of the door? Some great party? Some great feast? In any case, whatever is going on inside the room, we cannot be a part of. It isn’t because of the people inside; it is because of us.

In our spiritual lives, the other side of that door is union with God, heaven. The chain on the door is our sin. We have blocked our own entrance to the one place God desires us to be and we were created for.

Lucky for us God doesn’t leave us here, out in the cold. He has made a way for us to get rid of the chains and get into the party.

It is called the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

**What it is:**
The Lord calls us to Himself and invites us to have a share in His grace, which we receive through our Baptism. The grace that we receive helps us to do the good and to avoid evil. Though Christ won for us eternal life, we still live with the inclination to sin (known as concupiscence). This struggle is part of the life of every Christian. Though sin turns us away from the Lord, we are constantly called to re-turn to the Lord—to reconcile with the Lord. This struggle of conversion continues on, even after a person’s initial conversion in their Baptism.

St. Peter shows us an example of this re-conversion. During the Lord’s Passion. Members of the crowd identified Peter as Jesus’ follower and friend. After witnessing the torture of Jesus and fearing for his own life, Peter denies his affiliation with Jesus—denying his belief in Christ. After the Resurrection, Jesus returns to the twelve apostles and privately speaks with Peter. Jesus asks Peter if he loves Him three times. Peter affirms his love for the Lord and Christ instructs Peter on how he is to then lead his life—by tending the flock that Christ has called to Himself. This call from the Lord holds the implication of a repaired relationship and a renewed commitment to the will of the Lord.
The Lord has saved us through his Passion, death, and Resurrection. We share in this through our Baptism, in which we become members of the body of Christ. This means that when we act without regard to the laws and statutes of the Natural Law, which governs us all, we are acting contrary to the will of the Father, the decrees of Christ, and consequently against the rest of the mystical Body of Christ. We call this sin.

Sin is essentially "an offense against God, a rupture of communion with Him. At the same time it damages communion with the Church." Because of this dual offense, it is fitting that Christ provides, through the Church, a sacramental method of reparation for sin. God alone forgives the sin of man. While He walked on this Earth, Christ demonstrated his authority to forgive sin.

Christ entrusted the Church with the mission to be the sign of reconciliation with the Lord, through the apostolic ministry of the clergy, entrusted as representative figures of the person of Christ—as is the case in every sacrament--for the forgiveness of personal sins.

In the New Testament, forgiveness is also associated with admittance into the rest of the community. Jesus instructs the apostles to encourage sinners to come to the Church, that they may change their lives and reconcile with the Lord and the mystical Body of Christ—the Church. St. Peter, our first Pope and Vicar of Christ, was given the authority to confer the Lord's forgiveness through the apostolic ministry. Forgiveness involves conversion—turning away from sin—and reconciliation with the Church. Reconciliation with the Church is inseparable from reconciliation with God.

How it's done:
The Sacrament of Reconciliation, like all other sacraments, requires several things to take place in order for the effects of the sacrament to take place. It has also gone through many stylistic changes throughout the centuries, as have all of the sacraments.

For the sacrament to take place, the sinner must willingly come forward and desire to make amends with the Lord and with the community—the mystical Body of Christ. He must truly be sorry for his sin and orally confess his sins. Contrition is needed. The soul must experience sorrow for the offense against the Lord and desire to resolve not to sin again. This renewed love for God and the despising of
the sin specifically because it offends the Lord, is known as “perfect” contrition. This sort of contrition can forgive venial sins on its own. The other type of contrition is “imperfect” contrition, whereby a person is sorry for their sins, not because they offend the Lord, but rather because they themselves fear the pains of hell and the separation from the Lord.

It is most fitting that before a sinner goes to the Sacrament of Reconciliation that they thoroughly examine their conscience for any known mortal and venial sins.

The two types of particular sin (the individual's own sins as opposed to Original Sin) are mortal and venial. Aquinas speaks of sin as a “sickness of the soul.” A venial sin is a sickness that does not directly threaten the life of the individual—the ultimate end of the soul. A person that dies with a venial sin on their soul is able to attain salvation.

The second type of sin is called mortal. It is the sickness of the soul that leads directly to the “death” of the individual's soul. It separates the soul from the promise of eternal life. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is particularly important in the forgiveness of mortal sins; there is nothing else that can wash someone clean of this sickness after Baptism. A person whose soul is in the state of mortal sin stands out of communion with the Church, as their actions do not resonate with the teachings of the Church and they are therefore not permitted to receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist. To do so would essentially be saying that they stand in solidarity with the Church community, with the Communion of Saints, and with Christ Himself. This is essentially not true when you are in a state of mortal sin.

Therefore, during the sacrament, words and the intent are the matter of the sacrament—that thing that needs to be present as the substance of the sacrament. In the case of Confession, the substance is the words and the remorse—*the confession*. The confession of mortal sins must be confessed in both kind and number. After mortal sins are confessed to the priest, the representative of Christ and the Church who holds the same apostolic authority given to the apostles, the sinner's venial sins are to be confessed.
Once all of the sins the individual can recall are confessed, the priest then may offer some pastoral guidance or words of inspiration before assigning a penance and giving the absolution. A penance is what we do to make amends for the spiritual wrong that we have committed. Because sins also wrong our neighbor, it is important that we make some sort of restorative attempt to correct the injustice between our neighbor and ourselves.

The priest then gives the absolution by saying the words “I absolve you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit” (ego te absolvo). Any variation from or omission of these words means that the sacrament invalid.

In the case of impending death or extreme circumstances, a general absolution can be administered in which the priest recites the words of absolution in order for the faithful to be eligible to receive Communion. This can only be administered in the case of these extraordinary circumstances and only if the one being absolve makes a formal confession as soon as possible after the general absolution has taken place.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation does exactly what it implies—it reconciles us with the Lord; it heals our relationship with God and with His Church. The grace poured out during the Lord’s forgiveness is efficacious in the following ways:

- Reconciliation with God by which the penitent returns to the “state of grace”
- Reconciliation with the Church
- Remissions of the eternal punishment incurred by mortal sins (the individual is able to go to heaven)
- Remission, at least in part, of temporal punishments resulting from sin (i.e. “time off of Purgatory”)
- Peace and serenity of conscience, at spiritual consolation
- An increase of spiritual strength for the Christian battle
In any relationship, when there is a rift in trust or in friendship, it is good to apologize and to assure the wronged party that you are sorry and intend that whatever may have come between you both will not intentionally happen again. This is why it is a common practice to say an Act of Contrition at the end of the Sacrament of Confession in order to reaffirm your contrition, your sorrow, and to recommit your life to the Lord.

**How it's lived:**
Recommitment to the Lord is key to the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It is an *ongoing conversion* of the baptized Christian. In our secular lives, we are called to be transformed in Christ. Through the sacraments, he gives us new life. Therefore, the Church says, “let them not...hide this hope in the depths of their hearts, but even in the program of their secular life let them express it by a continual conversion and by wrestling "against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness.”

Part of the Sacrament of Confession involves making a resolution to live a better life because of the grace received in the forgiveness and the strength given, by grace, to avoid sin in the future.

This grace is **freely given** by the Lord. He does not have to forgive our sins, but does because of His love for us.

One way we can show our thanks and to renew our commitment to our ongoing conversion is to examine our consciences and recite an Act of Contrition every night before we go to bed. This is a good habit to get into, as general self-discipline assists in our individual strengthening and spiritual growth.
The Sacrament of Reconciliation

SKIT

Characters:
Youth Minister
Core Member
Guy Teen
Girl Teen

Setting: Outside the locked door of the usual Life Night room.
(The youth minister should start the skit by explaining that the meeting room is closed and for some reason the doors are locked but the Core is working on another plan)

CORE
(Interrupts youth minister)
Excuse me, (YM NAME).

YOUTH MINISTER
Um, yes (CORE NAME)?

CORE
Yeah, I have a plan. When I was in college we would get locked out of our dorm rooms all the time. Luckily, a few of our RA’s showed us this trick on how to get the door opened, mostly because they were tired of having to constantly unlock our doors. They had to fill out all this paperwork and we had to talk to…never mind. What’s important is that I’m 100% sure this will work. I did it all the time.

YOUTH MINISTER
(motions to the door)
Well, by all means, be my guest.

CORE
Great! Okay, so what you do is take a credit card (or student ID) and slip into the lock like so (puts card into door lock) and wiggle it around a little and… voila! The door… (pulls on door a few times)

YOUTH MINISTER
 Doesn’t open. Great plan! Thanks anyway (CORE NAME). Anyone else?

GUY TEEN
So, we had this arm wrestling competition a few weeks ago in the cafeteria and well, I won. (flexes muscles)
YOUTH MINISTER
So, are you going to arm wrestle the door open?

GUY TEEN
No. I’m just going to do THIS!
(Teen throws his shoulder into the door and falls backwards onto the floor)
and THIS
(Teen tries again and falls backward on the floor)

YOUTH MINISTER
Well, that obviously didn’t work either. Anyone else?

GIRL TEEN
(Yelling from behind everyone and walks up to the front carrying a sledge hammer)
Excuse me, Step aside! Coming though!

YOUTH MINISTER
(TEEN GIRL NAME), what are you doing?

GIRL TEEN
Opening the door. The door’s locked. Isn’t that the problem?

YOUTH MINISTER
Yes, but a sledge hammer? We don’t have repair money in our budget.

GIRL TEEN
(YOUTH MINISTER’S NAME), you have nothing to worry about. I’m a pro!
(Girl starts to swing sledge hammer)
(YM stops her mid-air.)

YOUTH MINISTER
Okay, I think we’ve had enough. I’ll take it from here.

THE END
EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

1. I am the Lord your God, you shall have no other gods besides me. Did I fail to love God, to make God first in my life, to thank Him, trust Him, love Him as He deserves? Did I fail to pray? Have I doubted or denied my faith? Was I careless in saying my prayers? Do I give God time everyday in prayer? Do I make a god out of my work, my possessions, or my image in the eyes of others so that these rule my life instead of God? Am I angry toward God because of illness or misfortune? Have I been involved with magic, horoscopes, Ouija boards or fortune telling?

2. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain. Did I curse or swear? Did I use God’s name in vain, lightly, carelessly, by blasphemy? Have I used foul language or jokes? In conversation, have I passively listened to slander and to jokes demeaning to the Church or God’s authority?

3. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Have I deliberately missed Mass on Sundays or Holy Days of Obligation? Did I leave Mass early without a good reason? Have I been to communion at least once a year? Did I receive Holy Communion in the state of serious sin? Have I been to confession recently? Have I allowed myself to become so dominated by my work and chores that I have not set aside Sunday for spiritual and family activities?

4. Honor your father and your mother. Did I honor and obey my parents? Did I respect my brothers and sisters? Did I respect others with lawful authority, especially teachers? Have I talked back? Did I fail to help at home or to spend time with my family? Do I blame my parents for my own shortcomings?

5. You shall not kill. Did I give in to feelings of anger or jealousy? Did I keep hatred in my heart? Have I ever struck anyone in anger, intending to injure the person? Did I fight, give a bad example or cause scandal? Have I abused alcohol or drugs? Have I had or in any way permitted or encouraged abortion? Have I thought about suicide? Have I killed someone? Have I killed someone with gossip or by what I said?

6. You shall not commit adultery. Did I consent to impure glances? Passionate kisses? Sinful touches? Did I give my mind over to lustful thoughts or fantasies? Was I immodest in dress or behavior? Did I look at pornography, impure books, magazines or videos? Am I guilty of impurity with myself or with others? Do I avoid laziness, gluttony, idleness and the occasions of impurity?

7. You shall not steal. Have I stolen what is not mine? What or how much? Did I return it or make up for what I have stolen? Have I cheated on tests or homework? Did I waste time at work? Have I been extravagant in my manner of life, to the neglect of the poor at home and abroad?

8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. Have I lied, gossiped? Talked about another person behind their back? Do I always tell the truth? Am I sincere? Did I reveal secrets that should have been kept confidential? In any of my previous confessions, did I lie to or deliberately conceal something from the priest? Am I critical, negative or uncharitable in my talk? Have I injured the reputation of others by speaking about their failures and sins with little desire or intention to help them? Have Icondoned prejudice and hatred toward people of other nationalities, races or religions?

9. You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife. Have I consented to impure thoughts? Have I encouraged them by stares, curiosity or impure conversations? Did I neglect to control my imagination or desire of other people? Have I rejected my family in my heart, wishing to distance myself emotionally and personally from them?

10. You shall not covet your neighbor’s goods. Is my heart greedy? Am I jealous of what another person has? Am I envious of others because I don’t have what they have? Do I habitually compare myself with others? Am I moody or gloomy? Do I work, study and keep busy to counter idle thoughts? Am I critical, negative or uncharitable in my thoughts of others? Is my heart set on earthly possessions or on the treasures in Heaven?

Act of Contrition

O my God, I am sorry for having offended you. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have offended you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In His name, my God, have mercy.

Amen
The Word of God has a lot to tell us about sin and forgiveness. Read the following verses one at a time and spend a few minutes in prayer with each verse. Use the blank space below to make notes or journal. Ask the Lord to reveal to you the truth about sin and His mercy.

Psalm 32

__________________________________________________

__________________________________________________

__________________________________________________

__________________________________________________

__________________________________________________

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Psalm 51

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Luke 15:11-32

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John 20:19-23

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FREED
The Sacrament of Reconciliation
CHECKLIST

Core Planning Team:
__________________________________________________
__________________________________________________
__________________________________________________
__________________________________________________

Date of Life Night:
__________________________________________________

One month prior to the Night:

☐ Give copies of the Life Night to each of the members of the planning team. Each person should read the Scripture and Catechism references as well as review the planning guide before the brainstorming meeting.

☐ Get the planning team together for a brainstorming meeting (this should last no longer than 1 hour). The team prays and discusses where the teens are in their faith journey in relation to this topic. Then using this planning guide as a starting point, the team adapts the Life Night to meet the needs of the teens and the parish. Create a detailed outline with any changes and/or adjustments.

☐ Assign the person responsible for each part of the Life Night:
  Environment ______________________________________
  Introductions ______________________________________
  “Doors are Locked” Skit _____________________________
  Prayer Stations (3) _________________________________
  Act of Contrition ___________________________________

Two Weeks Prior to Life Night:

☐ Turn in a detailed outline of the Life Night to the youth minister. Allow youth minister to give feedback and make any necessary changes.

☐ Create a list of needed supplies and materials. Assign a person to be responsible for collecting and/or purchasing the materials needed.

☐ Decide the people that will be doing the following things. Make sure they have a copy of the script and/or teaching outline. Inform them of any practices and/or deadlines.

  Teaching _________________________________
  Skit
    Youth Minister ___________________________
    Core Member ____________________________
    Girl Teen ______________________________
    Guy Teen ______________________________

Week of the Life Night:

☐ Written outline of the teaching is given to the youth minister and practiced.

☐ Run a dress rehearsal of the Life Night. Youth minister gives feedback.

☐ Create environment and collect needed supplies.

☐ E-mail entire Core team an overview of the night.

Day of the Life Night:

☐ Set up the environment. Make sure the room is clean and presentable.

☐ Set up audio and video. Test the video clips to make sure both picture and sound work.

☐ Walk the entire Core team through the Life Night. Make sure all transitions are ready and everyone knows their roles.

☐ Pray! Pray for the teens attending the Night. Pray for God’s will to be done through the night. Pray over those involved.

Freed
The Sacrament of Reconciliation
CHECKLIST

Core Planning Team:
__________________________________________________
__________________________________________________
__________________________________________________
__________________________________________________

Date of Life Night:
__________________________________________________

One month prior to the Night:

☐ Give copies of the Life Night to each of the members of the planning team. Each person should read the Scripture and Catechism references as well as review the planning guide before the brainstorming meeting.

☐ Get the planning team together for a brainstorming meeting (this should last no longer than 1 hour). The team prays and discusses where the teens are in their faith journey in relation to this topic. Then using this planning guide as a starting point, the team adapts the Life Night to meet the needs of the teens and the parish. Create a detailed outline with any changes and/or adjustments.

☐ Assign the person responsible for each part of the Life Night:
  Environment ______________________________________
  Introductions ______________________________________
  “Doors are Locked” Skit _____________________________
  Prayer Stations (3) _________________________________
  Act of Contrition ___________________________________

Two Weeks Prior to Life Night:

☐ Turn in a detailed outline of the Life Night to the youth minister. Allow youth minister to give feedback and make any necessary changes.

☐ Create a list of needed supplies and materials. Assign a person to be responsible for collecting and/or purchasing the materials needed.

☐ Decide the people that will be doing the following things. Make sure they have a copy of the script and/or teaching outline. Inform them of any practices and/or deadlines.

  Teaching _________________________________
  Skit
    Youth Minister ___________________________
    Core Member ____________________________
    Girl Teen ______________________________
    Guy Teen ______________________________

Week of the Life Night:

☐ Written outline of the teaching is given to the youth minister and practiced.

☐ Run a dress rehearsal of the Life Night. Youth minister gives feedback.

☐ Create environment and collect needed supplies.

☐ E-mail entire Core team an overview of the night.

Day of the Life Night:

☐ Set up the environment. Make sure the room is clean and presentable.

☐ Set up audio and video. Test the video clips to make sure both picture and sound work.

☐ Walk the entire Core team through the Life Night. Make sure all transitions are ready and everyone knows their roles.

☐ Pray! Pray for the teens attending the Night. Pray for God’s will to be done through the night. Pray over those involved.