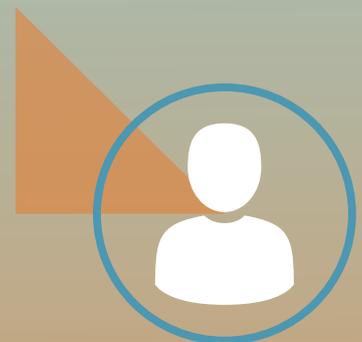


How to Start a Voke Group Adventure

9 steps to guide and engage with your
students through content journeys



VOKE

Who is shaping your students in the 167 hours outside your weekly gatherings?

In this resource, we're going to help you seize this opportunity with Voke Group Adventures. It's a safe, digital space specifically designed for leaders to guide and interact with their students around gospel-based video content during the week. The Voke app gives students the space to wrestle alongside others with their questions in 5-minute episodes, where we can follow along, seeing their craving for clarity, conviction and confidence nourished in the community.

We are going to introduce you to some incredible content and how to deliver it. But before we move any further, I want you to know that our heart is not to take away your responsibility as a teacher. As a pastor's daughter and teacher myself, I understand the importance and joy there is in creating content and leading it.

Hebrews 13:17 says, "Obey your spiritual leaders, and do what they say. Their work is to watch over your souls, and they are accountable to God." My prayer is that in the work of delivering content and in watching over those God has entrusted to you, that you are empowered to serve them well in the midst of today's challenging environment.

So let me ask you this question: who is shaping your students in the 167 hours outside your 1-hour, hybrid gatherings?

Choosing to move content out of your 1-hour hybrid gatherings and into the 167 other hours in the week is an invaluable shift in this season of ministry. This allows students to consume gospel-based and biblical content in bite-sized portions, without watering down these important concepts. We know that it's your greatest desire to impact your students' lives for eternity in the short time you've been entrusted with them. We also know that the best vehicle for you to achieve this goal is first relationally, through care and connection, and then digitally, through content. Our hope is to equip you with a tool that allows you to accomplish this goal holistically.

If you're looking for practical ideas on how to shift your student ministry forward on all fronts, check out our [free Student Ministry Shift Playbook](#).

As leaders, we should leverage our digital platforms to help our students grow and own their faith. Our effectiveness in student ministry will be shaped by how we engage with our students digitally, because their engagement with digital platforms is already shaping them. Let's put Voke Group Adventures to work as we reach into the 167 and help our students grow and own their faith -- together.

Together with you,
Raeli, Voke Community Director 😊

How to SET UP a Voke Group Adventure

More of a visual learner? [Watch "How to Start a Voke Group Adventure"](#)

#1. Download the newest version of the Voke app. The Voke app is available in both the [App Store](#) and [Play Store](#). You'll want to update your app regularly as the Voke community keeps us on our toes with amazing feedback. You won't want to miss out on all the improvements that feedback creates.

#2. Create your account. You probably added your name and photo; but that's only the beginning. Head to the main menu in the top left of your screen, select "Profile" and add your email and a password to finish creating your account. This way you can save your progress as you go and not lose access to managing your group.

#3. Start a Group Adventure. When you're in the Adventures section of the Voke app, click on the "Find Adventures" tab at the top right of your screen. Choose an Adventure you'd like to go through with your students. The Faith Adventure is Voke's best. Start strong with this 8-part series exploring our basic questions about faith and following Jesus. But, if you're looking to start off with a 3-part Adventure like "Is God Good?" or "Would I Have Liked Jesus?" you can explore one of those together as well. Once you've clicked on your Adventure, you can choose to "Go with a Group."

#4. Name your Group. Keep it short. Keep it sweet. Keep it clear. Our Voke community recommends dividing the groups by age or grade level to keep the conversation relevant to their felt needs. "Kahlea's Middle School Girls" is a great example. Keep the groups under 10 to get the best engagement in conversation.

How to SHARE a Voke Group Adventure

#5. Set your episode release schedule (*Coming November 2020*). The first episode will be open to all. The next one will drop according to the time you set. You can change this in the “Leader Zone” section. After working with a variety of student ministries across the US, youth leaders highly recommend sticking to a “Weekly” release schedule, which 1 episode per week with students. If you’re doing the Faith Adventure, for instance, this allows you to stretch your content over 8-weeks, and gives your students time to dig deeper into the content.

#6. Share your Group Adventure Code. Choose your method of sharing. Personalize the invite message (I cannot emphasize this enough); and hit send. Your Group members will receive a video trailer to give them a taste of what they’re about to experience. Pro tip: invite the non-regulars. In our experience with student pastors across the country, they have been shocked to see that the students with the highest engagement are those who they haven’t seen at church in a year. For various reasons, these students haven’t been able to attend -- sports, academics, parental restrictions, social anxiety; we’ve seen it all. But this is their space to find community along with a living, active hope in Jesus.

Once your group members download the app and create their account, they will copy/paste the 6-digit Adventure Code into the “Have an Adventure Code?” screen. This will add them to your Voke Group.

#7. Watch and discuss each episode. Voke enables you to explore content as a group and discuss your thoughts - just like when you’re together face-to-face. Watch the episode and respond to the question provided with each episode. This will unlock the Group’s answers for you to see. You can also chat about other people’s answers there. As a leader, don’t scare off your students with perfect answers. Be vulnerable; continue to engage with your students in that space and model regular participation.

How to SHARE a Voke Group Adventure

#8. Respond to the gospel. Give your students the chance to indicate where they are at spiritually during episode 7 of the Faith Adventure with multichoice. In this episode the host, Jonny, walks them through an opportunity for Jesus to take the lead in their life. Then, they will be given a multi-choice opportunity to indicate their response. This ranges from “No Thanks” to “I Just Did.” No matter how they respond, the insights you gain on this episode will position you to better craft your together-times and conversations. You’ll be able to most accurately gauge where and how your students need support.

#9. Start another Group Adventure. It doesn’t have to end with the Faith Adventure. You can stretch the other Adventures out to cover a season’s worth of discipleship. To start a 3-part Adventure series like, “Is God Good?” or “Are Christians Hypocrites”, head to the Find Adventures tab. Choose your Adventure. Click “Start”, then choose “Go as a Group.” Repeat steps 3-6 to keep going deeper with God and others. Then, equip them to share, grow and own their faith as they start Group Adventures with others.

Helpful tips / FAQ

How many people can I put in a Voke Group?

Anyone with an Adventure Code can join the Voke Group. But, we recommend keeping Voke Groups to 8-10 members for best engagement.

Can I run multiple groups at once?

Yes! You can have multiple Voke Groups. You'll be able to see and access them all on your "My Adventures" tab in the app.

How do I structure this for success?

Our encouragement when getting going is to text your Group members and remind them on the day when content is going to drop! This increases interaction around episodes together.

How should I launch Voke in my student ministry?

Launch a Voke Group with just your leaders and volunteers first. Familiarizing them with the app experience now will better equip them to lead their students later. It will also help you coach them through the art of discussion. We've discovered that many life group leaders need help in this social dynamic of leadership. Showing them how to keep a conversation going, knowing how to ask questions that help students see the content in a different light, etc. will help them in both face-to-face and online dynamics. Then, empower your leaders to launch Voke Groups with their students.

Can I use Voke with different age groups?

Yes. We recommend dividing Voke Groups by grade level to keep discussion relevant to their felt needs. But, if you have a leadership team that represents a variety of grades, we've seen leaders launch Voke Groups with them. Once these students are onboard, it becomes much easier to get other students involved.



Raeli Smith

Raeli Smith is the Community and Content Digital Strategist for Jesus Film Project, and the Community Director for Voke. Her heart is captivated by Jesus, fulfilled in serving ministry leaders, and satisfied with a quality cup of coffee.

She represents the top 1% of her graduating class as a Top Honor Graduate. She majored in Writing and Rhetoric, with a double minor in Nonprofit Management and Advertising/Public Relations, at the University of Central Florida.

She uses every ounce of it to help this generation find passion and confidence in following Christ. Get to know [Raeli on Instagram](#).

Have an amazing story of how God used Voke to help you or others grow and own their faith?

Let us know! We're here to chat at social@vokeapp.com and on Facebook Messenger.

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<https://www.vokeapp.com/groups>