

Hello My Name Is You Night

What you will need:

A phone or camera to take pictures

A download ([or Youtube](#)) of the song “Hello My Name is” by Matthew West

A hand-held whiteboard, dry erase markers in different colors, dry eraser

Pool Noodles (you can cut them in ½) for each student

Cardboard/paper Crowns for each student – you can get these at a Burger King, make your own or [Amazon has some](#) to purchase

Prepare:

If you are creative, it’s fun to make your whiteboard look like a “Hello My Name is” nametag (optional) Write a negative word on the whiteboard that you might use to describe yourself – the students will see this!

Find someone willing to take pictures of the students (or find adults to supervise the group while you take them)

If you are good and putting together a video quickly, or have someone available who can, that is wonderful. Otherwise, let the group know you will have the video ready for the next time you are together.

Have a list of positive words ready to write on the board to describe your students. It would be best if they did not see this list, but it would help you think of something quickly.

Watch the [Youtube video](#) of the song for inspiration!

Extra Words needed for the video in this order:

Blank

Defeat

Regret

Won't Let you Forget

Defeat

Recognize me

Lost all belief

Voices

Lies

(smiley face)

Child

Of the One

True King

Saved

Changed

Free

New

Amazing

Grace

Love

Children

When Done: Create a slide show video with “Hello My Name is” playing in the background. This cannot be uploaded! It is for personal use only since the song is copyrighted. You will need to have the words listed below pop up on the screen when it appears in the song. Fill in words from your youth group in between the song words. You can either put their word with the new word back to back, or use their word in the first half of the video, then all of the positive words together at the end.

Play the video for the students at the end of youth night, or if you need more time to put it together, have it ready to show them the following youth night. Or you could make it a viewing party and have some fun with it!

Hello My Name Is Agenda

Prayer: O Christ Jesus, when all is darkness and we feel our weakness and helplessness, give us the sense of Your presence, Your love, and Your strength. Help us to have perfect trust in Your protecting love and strengthening power, so that nothing may frighten or worry us, for, living close to You, we shall see Your hand, Your purpose, Your will through all things. Amen.

Announcements: (Let your group know of any upcoming youth events and announce the next youth night)

Say: Today we will be spending a few minutes talking about one of my favorite songs. This song is about fear, feelings of despair, and how we view ourselves. After we listen to the song and have a short discussion, we will work on making a video to go with the song we just heard.

Say: So think of a word that you would use to describe yourself. I will not ask you to share that word, but think about that word for a second. Does that word hold you back? Does it make you feel like you cannot accomplish something? Do you ever feel called to do something big, but hear voices in your head telling you it would never work, you are too weak, you do not know how? Listen to this.

Play Song "Hello My Name is" by Matthew West for the group

Say: So what did you get from this song? The author, Matthew West wrote this song about a guy who was awesome in sports, ran track and field and played football, he was the son of a protestant preacher. Never drank, tried drugs or smoked. In college, a Christian college, he continued playing in sports. When he broke his ankle his sophomore year, he ended up addicted to the painkillers. This caused him to spiral out of control and opened the door to other drugs. After he was kicked out of school, he tried to kill himself. For a long time, he introduced himself "Hi, My name is Jordan and I am a drug addict". He spent a year in a Christian rehab, he found himself again and was able to mend his relationships with his family and with God. He then went back to the same college, but did not return to sports. Instead, he got his Masters in Math, got married, and is now working toward becoming a protestant preacher like his father. Jordan no longer defines himself as a drug addict, but simply a child of Christ.

Say: Just like Jordan, each one of us has a nametag attached to our story. But we can redefine the word on our nametag. So many times we define who we are based on our past mistakes. We falsely fill in the blank on our nametag with names we wish we never had. That is when the devil will get inside your head and make you believe that this is who you are and always will be. Sometimes it's not even our own mistakes that define us, sometimes it's the world who fills in your blank and tries to define who you are. Luckily for you, for every lie that the world, or the devil, throws at you, there is a truth that speaks much louder than any lie.

Read: “See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.” 1 John 3:1

Say: If God calls you His child, and He is the one true King, what does that make you? No matter what lies are written on your name tag, God has the power to wipe that lie off with his magic eraser and put only the truth on your nametag.

While saying this, wipe off the board and write “Princess” or “Prince” in it’s place.

Say: If anyone would like to share the word they thought of to describe themselves to use for the video, you will have a chance to do so. We will have you come over one by one and write your word on the board. We would like to have a picture of you holding your word, but if you are not comfortable with that, we can just take a picture of the board. After the picture is taken with your word, we will wipe of that word and give each one of you a “true word” on the board. There will be some words from the song that we would like to have on the white board as well, so if you are not comfortable with your own word, but wouldn’t mind holding the board with one of the words from the song, I would like volunteers.

While the photographer is working on pictures for the video, have the rest of the group start the game. Students will need to leave the game to get their picture for the video.

One by one have the students write their word on the board. They can use any color and be creative. Then hold it up in front of them and get their picture taken. It helps if they do not smile for this one. The adult will then wipe off the word and write a new one and take another picture – have them smile!. If students do not want their picture taken with their word, that is fine, too. Just take a picture of the board without the student. Encourage them to get a picture with the positive word, though. Have a list of positive words (you will need 1 for each student!) readily available.

Game: (play while individual students are getting their pictures taken) Each student gets one paper crown and a pool noodle. They place the crown on their head, but make sure they don’t jam it really far on their head or else the game won’t be as fun. Rules: You can only use a pool noodle to knock off someone’s crown. Once your crown is knocked off you are out. Last person who still has a crown is crowned the Prince/Princess. (shows how easy it is to knock someone’s crown off)

Ending Prayer: Father, so many of our friends and family feel condemned by the mistakes they have made and the sins they have committed. Some believe there is no way God or anyone could ever really love them. Jesus, we pray that you would help us to show the love of God to our brothers and sister by withholding judgment and condemnation. Please help us to remember that we are all Your children and that we are your princes and princesses. Lord, we know how easy it is to knock someone’s crown off their head. We ask that you help us to remember this and to lift them up by our positive words and encouragement. Amen.