

# PC 101 Life Skills

## Gathering Agenda for Week 01

### Introduction to Pathway

#### Important Note

People are often nervous when they do something new, especially when it comes to education. Students know that they need an education to get ahead in life but they are worried that they won't be able to succeed in it, especially if it's in another language. They worry about how they will find the time, money, and support they need to complete their education. The purpose of this first gathering is to relieve some of these concerns by building up their confidence and inspiring them to keep moving forward. *If a student persists through the first few weeks and learns to trust their peers, the program, and the Lord, they find their confidence. They find that their ability to succeed grows dramatically. They just need to feel some of that hope this first night.*

#### Gathering Purposes

- **Inspire** students with the belief that they can succeed in getting an education.
- Build student **confidence** in their decision to pursue their education through BYU Pathway Worldwide.
- Help students feel welcome and **supported** by each other, their missionaries, their instructors, and the Lord.
- Ensure that students can access their course and know **what is coming next**.

#### Preparation

- Where possible, former PathwayConnect students should be invited to help facilitate this gathering.
- Prepare the room for groups:
  - For *face-to-face Gatherings*, arrive early to setup the room, prepare any visual aids, and greet students as they arrive.
  - For *virtual Gatherings*, start the meeting early, share your screen with a message welcoming them to the gathering and letting them know you'll start soon.
    - When the Gathering Agenda asks that students meet in small groups, use [Breakout Rooms](#).
    - When the Gathering Agenda asks you to display things on "the board," you can use the [whiteboard](#).

Min	Activities	Teaching Tips
<b>Welcome and Devotional</b>		
5	Welcome	Welcome everyone to the PathwayConnect Program and explain that, at this Gathering, they will learn more about: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The PathwayConnect program</li> <li>2. How it can help them discern their pathway in life and strengthen their ability to pursue it.</li> </ol>
	Devotional	Please sing one or two verses of a hymn. If you meet with a virtual gathering, the lead student or another student should be invited to share a brief spiritual thought. A volunteer will then give an opening prayer.
Missionary Led		

Personal Introductions			
15	Introduce	<p>Let students know that they'll be meeting together every week during PathwayConnect and that you want to make sure everyone feels comfortable and safe. Ask students to take about 30 seconds to briefly introduce themselves to the rest of the group using the questions below to help guide their discussion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is your name?</li> <li>• What brought you to PathwayConnect?</li> </ul>	<p>Missionary Led</p> <p><i>Virtual Tip: Ask students to mute themselves if they are not talking.</i></p>
Online Course			
5	Review	<p>Thank the class for introducing themselves. Remind the students that in addition the Gathering, most of the coursework is completed online.</p> <p>Make sure students know how to access their course.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visit <a href="http://byupathway.org">byupathway.org</a> then sign in</li> <li>• Once they sign in, their courses will be listed under current courses in their student portal</li> </ul> <p>If anyone is having trouble accessing or navigating their course, ask them to meet with you or a fellow student after the gathering.</p>	<p>Missionary Led</p> <p>Display the website address so that students know where to go</p>
The Importance of Education			
10	Read	<p>In the February 2013 Liahona President Nelson said the following about education.</p> <p><i>Being educated is the difference between wishing you could do some good and being able to do some good.</i></p> <p><i>Often people ask me what it's like to be a doctor. They ask, "How long were you in school?" Well, it was a long time. From the time I got my medical degree until the time I sent my first bill for professional services rendered was 12½ years. It was a long time, but how old would I have been 12½ years later if I weren't doing that? Exactly the same. So you might as well strive to become all that you can become.</i></p> <p><i>My medical education is what allowed me to perform a heart operation on President Spencer W. Kimball (1895–1985) in 1972. So don't discount knowledge. The glory of God really is intelligence (see D&amp;C 93:36).</i></p>	<p>Missionary Led</p> <p>If possible, display the quote</p>
	Share	<p>Briefly share your thoughts on this quote and invite others to share their thoughts.</p>	

		<p>To facilitate the discussion, you might consider the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why do people delay or stop their education?</li> <li>• What are you feeling as you start this journey?</li> </ul>	
<b>The PathwayConnect Program</b>			
25	Share	<p>Let students know that with you tonight you have former students here who felt much the same way you did when they started out and that you've invited them to share their thoughts with you.</p> <p>Ask former students to talk about the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How they've changed because of the program</li> <li>• The friendships they developed with their gathering mates</li> <li>• Tips and suggestions to be successful</li> <li>• What to expect moving forward (what's next)</li> </ul> <p>If time allows invite students as ask questions to the former students</p>	<p>Led by Former Student(s)</p> <p><i>TIP: If possible, invite students who have matriculated and are working on their certificate courses</i></p> <p><i>Note: If the former student(s) has not been through the new curriculum, make sure you let them know what has changed and clarify items as needed</i></p>
	Review	<p>If the following items have not been covered during the former student share, make sure that students understand them before leaving:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most of the work is done online</li> <li>• PathwayConnect credits count towards degree requirements at BYU-Idaho.</li> <li>• The PathwayConnect courses are <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 1<sup>st</sup> Semester: PC 101 Life Skills</li> <li>○ 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester: PC 102 Professional Skills</li> <li>○ 3<sup>rd</sup> Semester: PC 103 University Skills + their first certificate course</li> </ul> </li> <li>• During the third semester, their PathwayConnect course will overlap with their 1<sup>st</sup> certificate course</li> <li>• If students complete PathwayConnect with a B average (3.0 GPA), they can continue to the certificate and degree programs offered through BYU-Pathway Worldwide <u>and</u> keep their PathwayConnect tuition rate</li> </ul> <p>For questions you can't quickly answer, instruct students to go to their student portal (sign in at <a href="http://byupathway.org">byupathway.org</a>) and click on support.</p>	
	Conclusion	<p>Thank the students for attending and invite them to commit to this program and pray for Heavenly Father's assistance to help them find success.</p>	
	Testimony and Prayer	<p>Bear a 30-90 second testimony of the power of education. End with a prayer by invitation.</p>	

