1. Quality Meetings
   a. Strong teachings
      i. Clear content
      ii. Engaging delivery
      iii. Appropriate length
   b. Fun activities
      i. Must have energy and variety
   c. Relating
      i. Hang out and have conversations with the students
      ii. Join in fun activities with them
   d. Discipline
      1. Make sure students are safe—NOTHING dangerous or illegal.
      2. Set a strong, spiritual tone: “We have fun here, and we’re really into following God.”
      3. Most effective: positive reinforcement (catch them being good) and positive relationships
      4. Also necessary: address negative behaviors and attitudes
         1. Address negatives primarily on a spiritual level- have the conversation
         2. Use range of consequences- move seats (light), call parents (medium), suspension (extreme- seek counsel)

2. Evangelism
   a. Encourage students to BOTH invite friends AND share the Gospel
   b. Gospel in teachings
      i. Necessary every time! Might be a new student’s only time they’ll hear it.
      ii. Just old members at cell tonight? Give the gospel in a way that makes them wish they brought their non-Christian friends.
      iii. Use discussion questions/small groups to explore students’ conversion stories, and then follow up afterward.
   c. Gospel in conversations: most effective! Includes impromptu and planned opportunities (e.g. car rides).
3. Follow Up
   a. Interacting with students
      i. Get to know the students right away when group starts
      ii. Warmly welcome new students
   b. Interacting with parents** [2nd Most Commonly Neglected Essential!]
      i. Get a new students’ parent’s contact info at their *first* meeting
      ii. Call parents
         1. “We love having ______. Thanks for letting ______ be involved...”
         2. Tell them something specific you enjoy about their kid
         3. “Do you have any questions about what we do...”
         4. “Can we send you our next flyer with upcoming events...”
   c. Mobilize relatively mature students to help welcome new folks: coach, oversee, and give feedback
4. Mentoring
   a. Pre-mentoring Engagement
      i. Invest in students at cell and prayerfully observe spiritual interest—discern which students show desire to GROW and SERVE (not just comply)
   b. Initiate time spent outside cell meeting** [Most Commonly Neglected Essential!]
      i. Preferably in a small group
      ii. Include fun and study
      iii. Contact parents
   c. Established mentoring
      i. Weekly or bi-weekly, with prayer, study, counsel, and fun
5. Planning/Prayer
   a. Pray for all students by name regularly
   b. Regular parent contact: quarterly flyers (email Jenna LaBorde), weekly emails, calling/texting as needed
   c. Plan small events semi-regularly
      i. As a cell-night activity or another time (great for outreach)
      ii. Service projects
      iii. Plan an annual retreat
      iv. Parent night
   d. Getting students plugged into larger JH opportunities: central teaching, camp, classes, missions trip
   e. Adjust plans as needed
6. Teamwork
   a. Your leadership team
      i. Meet regularly: try to cover important but not urgent (mentoring, ethos, etc.)
      ii. Do as much planning/scheduling as possible over email
      iii. Senior leaders learn to *delegate* (e.g. stats); co-leaders learn to *initiate*
   b. Your sphere team
      i. Seek counsel—no question too big or small!
      ii. Disclosures: **mandatory** contact disclosures@xenos.org and copy your senior cell leader and sphere coach within 48 hours if a student discloses anything related to suicidal thoughts, abuse, self-harm, or anything dangerous/illegal, including sexual encounters. Call police/suicide hotline right away for emergencies (e.g. if they have a plan in mind for suicide).