



IDOL CHEF

AN EDGE SOCIAL NIGHT

EDGE NIGHT OUTLINE

KEY CONCEPTS

GOAL OF THIS NIGHT

The goal of this Edge Night is to create a fun and welcoming environment to foster relational ministry and community in your ministry. The youth will also share their talents in the culinary, dance and vocal areas as they cook, dance and sing throughout the night.

ABOUT THIS NIGHT

Cooking shows like Top Chef, Cake Boss, and Iron Chef and talent competitions like American Idol, So You Think You Can Dance and America's Got Talent have become an automatic recording for Digital Video Recorders (DVRs) everywhere. The only problem with watching a show like that is that you are not "live" in the studio and you cannot taste the creations that make your mouth water. Well, now you can!

This Edge Night will combine two of the most popular reality shows: American Idol and Top Chef creating what we call Idol Chef. The youth will enter the Edge Night and find their small group table complete with a pizza crust ready to be topped, aprons and/or chef hats. A Ryan Seacrest (American Idol) and/or Padma Lakshmi (Top Chef) host will come out and greet the young chefs to the night. Guest judges will be introduced to the youth who resemble a combination of American Idol (Randy Jackson, Jennifer Lopez and Steven Tyler) and/or Top Chef (Gail Simmons and Tom Colicchio or a popular chef on reality TV) judges. The host will explain the flow of the night, which will involve topping their pizza creation and presenting their pizza (once cooked) with their group song performance. As the pizzas are cooked, the youth will have 10-15 minutes to practice their group song. Once the pizzas are cooked, each group will present a slice of their pizza and their group song to the judges. The judges will score them on their pizza and performance, giving them an overall score. The winning team will get a prize determined by the youth minister and close the night with prayer.

PARENTAL NOTICE

ENVIRONMENT

The environment for the night will be a large kitchen with individual group tables for small groups to prepare pizzas on. One or two toppings stations where groups can collect their toppings for their pizza will be necessary. Be creative with this night and provide paper chef hats, hairnets from the dollar store, chef jackets, aprons, etc. You can name each station a different reality cooking show such as Top Chef, Cake Boss, Iron Chef, Hell's Kitchen, etc. Cover the tables in colorful tablecloths to make the room pop and project a reality cooking show on the projector or TV in the room. Create a "judges table" and a stage with microphones for the American Idol performances as well. Be creative with this by having Coca Cola cups and costumes for the judges. Maybe even have a makeup artists there to touch up the "Jennifer Lopez" judge's lipstick after each pizza piece she eats. Have fun and be sure to have additional parent help in the kitchen to make it a smooth process.

GATHER

MEDIA SUGGESTION: TOP CHEF VIDEO

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Project a video of Top Chef on the screen or television as the youth enter the room and go to their small group table, complete with a plain pizza crust. Feel free to have the tables titled as one of many reality cooking shows such as Top Chef, Cake Boss, Iron Chef, Hell's Kitchen, Chef Academy, Chopping Block, etc.

If you have props such as aprons, hairnets, or chef hats for your youth, have them put them on.

HOST AND JUDGE INTRODUCTIONS

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When all the youth are in the room have the host or hosts for the night come out and welcome the youth to the Edge Night. Host suggestions are Core Members who look and can act like Ryan Seacrest from American Idol or Padma Lakshmi from Top Chef.

Media Suggestions: American Idol Theme music

You can also welcome new youth and acknowledge birthdays in a fun way.

OPENING PRAYER/GRACE

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Have the host begin the night with a blessing over the food that will be prepared so that when the food comes out, we will have already said grace and given thanks for the food that will be eaten.

GUEST INTRODUCTIONS

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Guest judges will be introduced to the youth that can resemble a combination of American Idol (Randy Jackson, Jennifer Lopez and Steven Tyler) and/or Top Chef judges (Gail Simmons and Tom Colicchio or another popular Chef in reality TV).

PROCLAIM

HOST INSTRUCTIONS

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The host(s) will explain the flow of the night, which will involve:

Creating their group pizza and sending it to the kitchen to cook

Practicing a group song performance to either a pre-selected group song or a group voted song

Performing their song when their pizza creation has been cooked (order of performance and judging will be determined by the order their pizza goes in the oven)

Judges Table (judges will combine scores based on pizza taste and song performance)

Host winner announcement

PIZZA PREPARATION

Groups will visit the topping station to get the supplies they need for their pizzas. Make sure you have plenty of toppings and include things you think will make for some original creations. You might even encourage the youth to bring toppings for their group so they can be involved in the topping table.

Once their pizza is ready to go in the oven, have them turn their pizza (on a pizza tray or cookie tray) into the kitchen.

Suggestion: create tin foil numbers or name cards for each cookie tray or pizza tray so you can identify each group's pizza.

PRACTICE SONG

Have each group, while their pizza is cooking, prepare a 2 minute song performance. Song suggestions can be either pre-selected (fastest) or group selected. They will have 15-20 minutes to work on their song/performance.

Note: Depending on the size of your group, you might need to have two groups team up and have one group make the pizza and one group perform a song. This way the presentations are half and will be completed in the hour and half suggested Edge Night timeframe.

BREAK

JUDGES TABLE

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Hosts will come out and introduce each group. Each group will present the judges their pizza bite and then get ready to perform their group song. Depending on time, the judges can make short comments about either the food or the performance as the judge they are pretending to be.

During the performances, groups can enjoy their pizza while watching the other groups perform, but remind them to be mindful of the groups performing and respect them while they eat.

JUDGES SCORING

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Judges will score each group based on their pizza taste and their performance. Have another Core member tallying the overall scores so immediately after all the groups have been judged you can announce a winner.

SEND

AND THE IDOL CHEF IS...

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End the night having your host announce the winner of the best pizza and then the best performance and the best overall score. You can give out 3 different prizes this way or just one overall prize if you would prefer.

CLOSING PRAYER

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End the night with a prayer of thanks for the food and gift of music.

CONCLUSION

ADAPTING THIS NIGHT

GOING DEEPER