

**On the Lot**  
**Wk 3/3: Action**  
**March 14 & 15, 2020**



## LEADER PREP

### GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

For students to realize God's boundaries are a good thing.

### SCRIPTURE

James 1:25 & Matthew 5:23-24

### THINK ABOUT THIS

It's important not just to know the Bible but to live it out. Today we are talking about maybe THE greatest obstacle to putting Scripture into action: boundaries! No one is a fan of rules or boundaries; we don't want anyone to tell us how to live - even if it is God. But what if boundaries and rules were actually for our good? And what if we saw them that way? That would be a game changer! Let's just read one example of a boundary, or rule, God has in His word for us and talk about how this may actually bring us more freedom in our lives! Before leading this weekend, take some time in prayer to reflect on and wrestle with our main point: Do you really think living out the words of the Bible leads to more freedom, not less, in your own life? Journal and praise God for times you've seen this in your life. Journal and pray over ways you may need to trust God and make a change to live out His words in your own life. If you decide to make a big change, ask people on your team to encourage you and pray for you!

*This guide is a suggestion, not a formula. Adjust the questions and activities as needed, and don't feel like you need to do, or ask, everything you see here. Let the students and the Holy Spirit guide the conversation, too.*

## CONVERSATION GUIDE

### MAIN POINT

**Living out the words of the Bible leads to more freedom, not less.**

### GET THEM TALKING

What are some rules you find super annoying?

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do you think boundaries can be a good thing? Why or why not?

**READ JAMES 1:25 and answer the following questions:**

2. How can a law, or rule, set us free? What are some examples? (i.e. Not running at the pool can save us from slipping and getting hurt.)
3. Can you think of a time in your life when doing what seemed to bring freedom really led to a consequence that limited freedom?
4. Do you think the Bible gives you more freedom? Why or why not?
5. What does the verse say God will bless us for? Why do you think that is?

**Let's read one example about a boundary, or rule, example in the Bible and talk about how it may actually bring us more freedom in our lives: READ MATTHEW 5:23-24 and answer the following questions:**

6. If you chose not to forgive someone, what might be the long term consequences?
7. How can forgiving someone give us freedom?
8. What's another scripture that you are having trouble following right now?
9. How could following this Scripture bring you freedom in the long run?

### NEXT STEP

Pass out the Matthew reading schedule to anyone who needs one and ask about how it went for those who started already. Invite new students to read the Bible every day this week with your group. If someone is behind or just starting, encourage them to read 2 chapters a day until they catch up. Remind them the chapters are short, and they can do it!

### PRAYER GUIDE

Ask your students to share their prayers requests and close your time together in prayer.

## SCRIPTURE

MS students are concrete thinkers, so opening your Bible to read the Scripture with them is a preferred visual cue.

### JAMES 1:25

But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it.

### MATTHEW 5:23-24

"So if you are presenting a sacrifice at the altar in the Temple and you suddenly remember that someone has something against you, <sup>24</sup> leave your sacrifice there at the altar. Go and be reconciled to that person. Then come and offer your sacrifice to God."