



HIM + HER STUDY GUIDE WEEK 2



MAIN SCRIPTURES:

1 Peter 2:15-17
1 Thessalonians 4:3-5

MAIN POINTS:

1. Guys and girls may be different, but we can still seek to understand and respect one another.
2. Respect God with your body.

JESUS CONNECTION:

We all were born slaves to sin but God sent Jesus to die on the cross to rescue us from our sins and death.

@HopeHSM

1. READ *The Bible*

Yessss! We are glad you are here because taking time on your own to study God's word is an amazing way to grow in your relationship with Him. Life with Jesus is the best life! Take a moment to pray and ask God to lead you as you study this Scripture; then read the Scripture (*from your Bible or it's on the back*).

2. OBSERVE

The Straight Facts

Who: _____

What: _____

Where: _____

Why: _____

How: _____

What is Repetitive?

Highlight it

What is Contrast?

Underline it

3. INTERPRET

What Does the Text Mean?

Research answers using trusted sources like a Study Bible, BibleProject.com, BlueLetterBible.org, and/or Bible.org

What is the historical and/or cultural context of this Scripture?

Both 1 Peter and 1 Thessalonians were letters written by early church leaders (Peter and Paul, respectively) to early churches to give them encouragement and instruction on how to grow closer to Jesus and live Christian lives. Though our culture is different from the early churches, many issues we face like greed, oversexualization, selfishness, etc. are the same struggles that flood our culture.

What else do I know about the author, audience, or context of this passage?

What other Scripture might help me interpret this text?

What is this text's clearest meaning?

4. APPLY

Getting Personal

How do you relate to any of the characters, events, or words in this Scripture?

What truth(s) from this Scripture can you apply to your life right now?

What is God saying to you through this Scripture?

MAIN SCRIPTURES

1 Peter 2:15-17 NIV

“¹⁵ For it is God’s will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people. ¹⁶ Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God’s slaves. ¹⁷ Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.”

1 Thessalonians 4:3-5 NIV

“³ It is God’s will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; ⁴ that each of you should learn to control your own body in a way that is holy and honorable, ⁵ not in passionate lust like the pagans, who do not know God.”

NOTES

DOODLES



HIM + HER TEACHING GUIDE WEEK 2



MAIN SCRIPTURES:

- 1 Peter 2:15-17
- 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5

MAIN POINTS:

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THE WHAT

WHAT are we talking about and WHY does it matter to me? (2-3 min)

NOTES

ME

- Guys and girls are different.
- Share a personal story of a stereotypical misunderstanding between you and someone of the opposite gender (bonus points if your story has humor) OR Ask your audience to share different stereotypical differences between guys and girls & be ready to share some of your own. (For example: Guys are more physically wired; Girls are more emotionally driven. Guys fight with their fist, girls fight with their words. Girls speak a secret language guys can't understand. Girls overthink and guys underthink.)
- Guys and girls are different, and that can make understanding each other difficult. It can make dating complicated. We don't act, think, or react like each other. Which is why sometimes the world of dating can be a minefield.

WE

- Even though stereotypes aren't always right, we've all experienced a time where we saw or felt a difference between guys and girls.
- Did you know there actually are differences in the way guys and girls brains are structured and how they process information? Women have bigger memory centers and more white matter, which connects the different parts of their brains more. Guys have more information-containing grey matter.
- You may have heard guys brains are like waffles, and they have a box for everything. Girls brains are like spaghetti, and everything is connected.
- The point is: we are different. Sometimes these differences can lead us to misunderstand each other, feeling frustrated or disrespected.

TRANSITION

- Even though we are different, we can still seek to understand and respect one another.
- Today we are going to look at 2 different Bible verses and how they center around this idea of guys, girls, dating, and RESPECT – how we can respect each other and God.
- **Important side note reminder: This series isn't an encouragement or pressure to date.** If you aren't dating, this lesson is still good for you because (1) we can seek to understand and respect each other outside of dating and (2) if you start dating in the future, you will have a great foundation of Biblical wisdom!



HIM + HER DISCUSSION GUIDE WEEK 2



MAIN SCRIPTURES:

1 Peter 2:15-17
1 Thessalonians 4:3-5

MAIN POINTS:

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LEADER CORNER

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

For students to start, or grow, in using godly wisdom in who they pursue in dating relationships.

THINK ABOUT THIS

Let your students know: This series isn't an encouragement to date, it's an encouragement for students to use godly wisdom when they date. Some students in your group may not be dating yet, and that is ok! In fact, Paul says it's better to stay single (1 Corinthians 7:10) and our last week we are going to talk about not rushing – so if you aren't dating or don't feel ready yet – GREAT! This lesson is still good wisdom and discussion for you because chances are one day you will start dating and when you do – you'll be able to start on a great foundation of Biblical wisdom!

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

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

GET THEM TALKING

1. What are some differences, in general, that you've noticed between guys and girls?
2. What are common ways you think guys and girls commonly misunderstand or manipulate each other?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

READ 1 Peter 2:15-17 and discuss the following questions:

1. God calls us to live in honor and respect for one another. What are ways guys can respect girls?
2. What are ways girls can respect guys?
3. What are ways we can respect people we are dating?
4. What are things that can make it hard to show respect to each other?
5. How can we overcome these roadblocks?

READ 1 THESSALONIANS 4:3-5 and discuss the following questions:

1. What things is this Scripture calling us to stay away from?
2. What things is it calling us to move towards?
3. Have you ever thought about setting boundaries around dating or other things that can lead you to give into temptation? If so, can you share some of those boundaries with us?
4. How can we respect God when it comes to our physical bodies?
5. What are some temptations that pop up in high school that can make it hard to live out respecting God with our bodies?
6. How can we overcome these roadblocks?
7. If someone were to admit they were struggling with sexual sin in our small group, do you think they'd feel loved or judged by us?
8. How can we be a small group that encourages each other to grow in our faith without shunning people when they sin?

NEXT STEPS

We've talked about two types of respect today. Respecting those of the opposite gender and respecting God with our bodies. Be honest with yourself, **which of these do you think is your biggest struggle right now?** **What is something you can do this week to show respect in that area?**

PRAYER GUIDE

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

MAIN SCRIPTURES

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BONUS LEADER RESOURCE

We all need accountability. Your students may reach out to ask you to help keep them accountable on different aspects of their faith – this is awesome! That means they want to grow in their faith. On top of supporting your students, here are some steps you can encourage them to take:

5 Steps to Hold Yourself Accountable

1. Be Honest with yourself and God. We all have sinned, God knows this (Hebrews 4:13). We are honest and ask God for His forgiveness, God is always faithful to give it to us. And don't you just feel freer, lighter, happier when you are forgiven and not weighed down by secret sins?
2. Commit to God's ways. John 14:15 says, "If you love me, keep my commands." But I want to tell you something – this is a choice YOU are going to have to make and keep making. Your parents can't do it for you, even if they drive you to church or make you login online.
3. Invite others to keep you accountable. This may be the scariest step because who wants to share about their secrets and sins with others – and you took it! James 5:16 says, "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." Are there other mature believers you can ask to be on your team? Not everyone is going to understand the choices and changes you are making, get some people on your team who you can support you.
4. Make a Plan. Set goals and boundaries to overcome temptation in place. Have a plan for how you will leave tempting situations – maybe even look into accountability software or asking others, like your parents, to help you keep certain boundaries.
5. Rinse and Repeat. We will all mess up and sin again, but remember God is a loving, forgiving Father cheering you on every step you take towards following Him.