

LEADER PREP

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

For students to embrace that:

- (1) Jesus can help them when they are in need.
- (2) They can share Jesus' love by helping others in need.

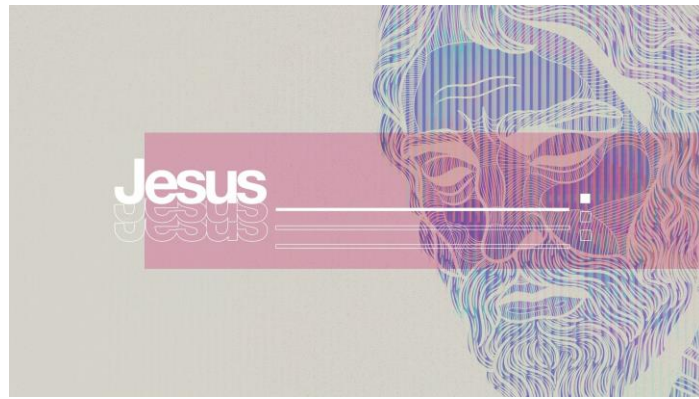
SCRIPTURE

Luke 8:43-48

THINK ABOUT THIS

You may have noticed that people — especially students — spend a lot of time in front of screens these days. Screen time and the internet can distort our connections with others and hinder students from growing in compassion with others. On top of that, add all the crazy hormones and insecurities that have always come with the middle school age — it can be a rough season of life. The internet and social media also encourage us to make snap judgements about others based on one comment or picture — encourage your students to be different. Encourage your students to see the people in front of them — whether they are physically together or virtually — to see the whole person and imagine what it might be like to be in their shoes, give them grace, and show them compassion. This goes deeper than being nice; encourage them to grow in how they see others and have a loving compassion for them that moves them to action.

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

Jesus helps those in need.

GET THEM TALKING

Briefly share a time where you had a need (any need, big or small) and someone helped you.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How does it feel when someone helps you out when you are in need?
2. Think of someone in your life who shows compassion for others. Share who you picked and one or two reasons why you would describe them as compassionate?

READ LUKE 8:43-48 and discuss:

3. In your own words, what happens in these Bible verses?
4. What does it say about Jesus that He sees the needs of this woman and helps her out?
5. Why do we sometimes miss seeing the needs of those around us?
6. How can we be like Jesus and open our eyes to help those around us?
7. What are ways we can show compassion for others?
8. What does it say about the woman's faith that she reached out to Jesus in her need?
9. How can we be like the woman and reach out to God in faith when our needs are bigger than we know how to meet?

NEXT STEP

Think of someone around you who has a need (big or small, physical or emotional, etc). What is one thing you can do for them this week to show them compassion? Go do it to share Jesus' love with them!

PRAYER GUIDE

Ask your students to share their prayer 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.

LUKE 8:43-48 (NIV)

⁴³ And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years, but no one could heal her. ⁴⁴ She came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak, and immediately her bleeding stopped.

⁴⁵ “Who touched me?” Jesus asked.

When they all denied it, Peter said, “Master, the people are crowding and pressing against you.”

⁴⁶ But Jesus said, “Someone touched me; I know that power has gone out from me.”

⁴⁷ Then the woman, seeing that she could not go unnoticed, came trembling and fell at his feet. In the presence of all the people, she told why she had touched him and how she had been instantly healed. ⁴⁸ Then he said to her, “Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace.”