

Jesus _____.
Week 4/4: May 30, 2021

LEADER PREP

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

For students to know that:

- (1) They are valuable to God.
- (2) They can live as positive examples for those older than them.

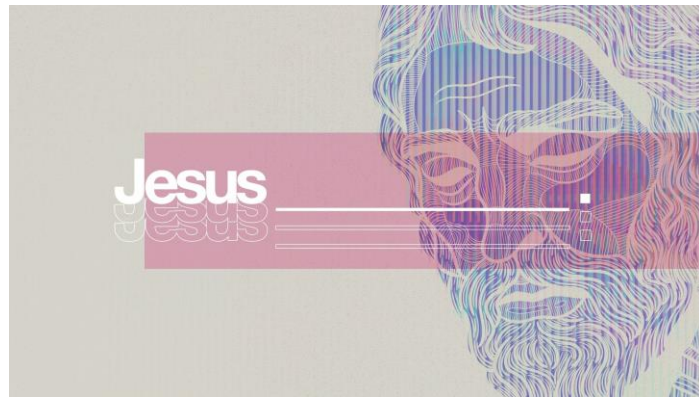
SCRIPTURE

Luke 18:15-17 &
1 Timothy 4:12

THINK ABOUT THIS

Over a decade in student ministry has taught me one thing: looking a middle school student in the eye, smiling at them, and even asking them one question or saying one thing to them can make a HUGE difference to them feeling welcome at church. Middle school students are almost so used to being ignored by older teens or adults that it is shocking to them when someone shows they see them. Jesus values youth and we should too! THANK YOU for being a caring high school student or adult in their lives who takes the time to see them, get to know them, and point them towards their value to Jesus. Between the eye rolls and difficult conversations you may have, don't grow weary of doing good – keep up the good, eternally valuable work!

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 values you(th).

GET THEM TALKING

Briefly share about a time where you feel like you were overlooked because you were too young.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some qualities you think children have more than adults?
2. When you become an adult, what don't you want to lose about who you are now?

READ LUKE 18:15-17 and discuss:

3. How does this verse show Jesus values children?
4. How does Jesus tell adults to be more like children? Why do you think that is?

READ 1 TIMOTHY 4:12 and discuss:

5. How does this verse show God values youth?
6. Do you think it's possible for anyone to set examples for someone older than them? Why or why not?
7. What are ways younger people can set examples for older people?
8. If you could give a speech on behalf of your generation, what would you want to say?

NEXT STEP

List three people in your life who are younger than you. How can you show them they matter and you love them this week?

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 18:15-17 (NIV)

¹⁵ People were also bringing babies to Jesus for him to place his hands on them. When the disciples saw this, they rebuked them. ¹⁶ But Jesus called the children to him and said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. ¹⁷ Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.”

1 TIMOTHY 4:12 (NIV)

¹² Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.”