

Wk 3/5: You Belong Here:
Made to Make a Difference Edition
August 15, 2021

LEADER PREP

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

For students to be inspired to make a difference in the world around them

SCRIPTURE

[Ephesians 2:10 \(NLT\)](#) & [Jeremiah 22:16 \(NIV\)](#)

THINK ABOUT THIS

AWKWARD SILENCES. They are a part of every small group at one point or another. They can mean a bunch of things, from students thinking of their answers, not feeling comfortable to share, not understanding the question, etc. They happen even to the best small group leader, but you don't have to fear them! Pro small group leaders see them as an opportunity to lean more into the students and pull out discussion. RESIST THE URGE TO FILL IT YOURSELF. Don't answer your question, but first try rephrasing it, something like, "Did that make sense? Let me ask it like this..." If still nothing, take a moment to go back to the vision and heart of small groups, saying something like "I want this to be a safe space where everyone can share their thoughts and questions. I want to hear what y'all think! Even if your answer isn't perfect or you aren't sure it's right – take a guess! I want to hear what you all have to think because that is important to me."

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

You were made to make a difference.

GET THEM TALKING

What is one of your favorite birthday memories and what makes it one of your favs?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

READ EPHESIANS 2:10 and answer the following questions:

1. In your own words, what is this verse saying?
2. What does it say about the way we were made?
3. On a scale from 1-10, do you believe God made you to make a difference? Why did you pick that number?

READ JEREMIAH 22:16 and answer the following questions:

4. In your own words, what are these verses saying?
5. Who are some of the "poor and needy" around us?
6. What are different things they need?
7. What are different ways we can help them?

NEXT STEP

The REAL adventure, the REAL life change comes not just from talking about this stuff but living it out in our lives Monday-Sunday. Think of someone in your life you can help and do something for them this week. Maybe talk to your parents and see how you could serve others as a family.

PRAYER GUIDE

Ask students for their prayer requests and close your time together in prayer. If you have enough time, ask each student to say a prayer for someone in their life for whom their heart breaks.

SCRIPTURE

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

EPHESIANS 2:10 (NLT)

“For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.”

JEREMIAH 22:16 (NLT)

“He defended the cause of the poor and needy, and so all went well. Is that not what it means to know me?” declares the Lord.”