



**Wk 4/5: You Belong Here:
Made to Make a Difference Edition
August 22, 2021**

LEADER PREP

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

For students to be encouraged to pray for others.

SCRIPTURE

Main Scriptures: [James 5:16 NIV](#)

THINK ABOUT THIS

A lot of terms that are common in the Bible aren't so common in our every day lives. To truly lead a small group where everyone is welcome, we want to make sure we are taking time for everyone to understand the meaning of such words as righteous and confess. Here are a few definitions to help you unpack today's Bible verse with your students:

"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."

– James 5:16 NIV

1. "Confess your sins" simply means to admit wrongdoing or own up to any time we do less than God's best for us.
2. A "righteous person" is a person living right with God. It doesn't mean they are perfect, but they love God and seek to live life His way.

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

Prayer is our foundation for making a difference.

GET THEM TALKING

What comes to your mind when you hear "hidden treasure?"

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. On a scale from 1-10, how comfortable are you with praying on your own? What about praying out loud?
2. In your own words, what is prayer?
3. How is prayer like a hidden treasure?

READ JAMES 5:16 and answer the following questions:

4. In your own words, what are these verses saying?
5. What's an example of a powerful prayer you've heard of (from the Bible or your life or you have heard of)?
6. What can we do when we don't see God answering a prayer the way we thought or hoped for?
7. How can praying for others make a difference in this world?
8. Who are some people we can be praying for?

NEXT STEP

Who can you pray for?

Set a time of day to pray for them every day this week. Leaders, this is a great time to lead by example – what do you do when you are praying for others? Share with your students and give them some ideas of how they can remember to pray for others during the week.

PRAYER GUIDE

Ask students for 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.

JAMES 5:16 (NIV)

“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.”