



**Wk 5/5: You Belong Here:
Made to Make a Difference Edition
August 29, 2021**

LEADER PREP

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

For students to resist the temptation to just think about making a difference and take a step to make a difference in the world.

SCRIPTURE

Main Scripture: [James 4:7-8](#) (NLT)

Secondary Scripture:

Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)

THINK ABOUT THIS

The longer I walk with God, the more I realize my heart has a tendency to “wander” away from God and towards things of this world. It happens to all of us, but the cool thing is when we notice and we know the secret to resetting our hearts, we have unlimited access to resetting ourselves. It all starts in our hearts. Meditate on the last discussion question this week before your small group: What are ways we can “come close to God?” Make a list and pick one way and live it out before your small group. Reset your heart and mind before God. That is the most important thing you could ever do for your students. Because life-change doesn’t come from them hearing you say things, but from them seeing how you live out what you are saying to them. That inspires life-change. You were called to your group of students for such a time as this. What you do matters, even on the tough days. How you love them matters, even if they roll their eyes at you. You are making a difference in this world. Thank you.

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

Adventure awaits when we let go of what is holding us back.

GET THEM TALKING

What is your favorite type of music?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

READ EPHESIANS 2:10 and answer the following questions:

(Yes, we've been reading this verse a lot but we really want it to soak in and we learn best through repetition so...)

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?
4. Why did you pick that number?
5. What are different things we can do that can make a difference for others?

READ JAMES 4:7-8 and answer the following questions:

6. In your own words, what are these verses saying?
7. How can we overcome our enemy?
8. What are ways our enemy can try to distract us from helping others or giving our hearts fully to God?
9. What are ways we can overcome distractions?
10. What are ways we can “come close to God?”

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. We were all made to make a difference in the world. That may seem like a huge “mountain to climb” but every mountain climber starts with a first step, then a second, one step at a time. Think, what’s one step you can take this week to unplug from distractions and either grow closer to God or serve someone else? Go around and share your ideas with each other.

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 4:7-8 (NLT)

“So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world.”

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.”