



MORE TO THE STORY

WEEK 3

FEB 20 + 23, 2022

LEADER PREP

MAIN POINT

Sex isn't casual no matter how casually it's treated.

SCRIPTURE

Romans 12:2 & 9-10 NIV

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

For students to recognize that God's design for sex was for it to have emotional significance. And for them to think critically about cultural messages that tell them they should be emotionally unaffected by sexual activity or content.

THINK ABOUT THIS

At this phase, it may be difficult for teenagers to recognize how media or cultural influences affect their thoughts and attitudes. They are not incapable, just inexperienced. As leaders, we can help them think critically by teaching them to name and evaluate cultural messages about sexuality, from porn to ads to peer conversations. This week in your conversations, aim for teaching them HOW to think rather than telling them what to think.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

THE CHECK IN

- How was everyone's week? Share Highs & Lows.
- Someone recap the main point of the message.
- How have you seen sex portrayed casually, on tv, social media, etc?

THE WORD

- READ Romans 12:2. What would transforming the pattern mentioned in that question above look like?
- READ Romans 12:9-10. How does treating sex casually keep us from doing this?
- Do you think it's possible to behave your way into a new way of thinking?
- What are some ways we can renew our minds?
- What are some things that make it hard to live differently than others? How can we overcome those obstacles?

APPLICATION

- What is one step you can take this week to "not conform to the pattern of the world" but pursue living a life transformed by God?

COMMUNITY BUILD

- **GROUP TEXT - TRY THIS:** To connect and keep growing, let's try something different. Every day this week I'll group text different questions unpacking Romans 12:9-10 in high school terms and y'all respond with your thoughts. (See *examples on back*).
- How can we connect outside of small group time and have fun together?

PRAY

We are going to close in prayer.
Anyone have any prayer requests?

ROMANS 12:2 NIV

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

ROMANS 12:9-10 NIV

"Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves."

GROUP TEXT - TRY THIS:

To connect and keep growing, let's try something different. Every day this week I'll group text different questions unpacking Romans 12:9-10 in high school terms and y'all respond with your thoughts.

- Monday: What does "love must be sincere" mean when you're in high school?
 - Tuesday: What could "hate what is evil" look like in high school?
 - Wednesday: What could "cling to what is good" look like in high school?
 - Thursday: What could "being devoted to one another" look like in high school?
 - Friday: What does it mean to "honor one another" in high school?
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NOTES