



WEEK 1

MARCH 6 + 9, 2022

LEADER PREP

MAIN POINT

Connecting with God helps us know Him better.

SCRIPTURE

Mark 12:30 NIV

John 15:5 NIV

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

For students to recognize that connecting with God, like any other relationship, begins with spending time together.

THINK ABOUT THIS

Students expect adults to condemn them for using social media “too much.”

As you lead discussions, use language that respects their online reality and their rhythms of connecting with the world. Don't guilt or shame them about “distractions” in their world hinting that it's all because of their phones. Instead seek to empathize with the demands in their world—pressure to keep up and stay connected, as well as extra-curriculars, family life, grades and school, and their social lives. Help them think through ways to stay connected online and find time to pursue connecting with God too.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

THE CHECK IN

- How was everyone's week? Share Highs & Lows.
- Someone recap the main point of the message.
- What is one random skill or talent you wish you had without having to practice at it?
- How can habits help us grow?
- How can connecting with friends grow our relationships?

THE WORD

- READ Mark 12:30. In your own words, how can we live this out?
- READ John 15:5. In your own words, what is this saying?
- What do you think the “fruit” (or result) of spending time with God looks like?

APPLICATION

- Let's brainstorm together: What are different ways we can connect with God?
- What are your favorite ways to connect with God?
- What are some things that keep us from spending time with God?
- What are ways we can each remind ourselves to make a habit of spending 15 minutes together with God this week? (*Leaders, share any tips you have like spending time with God first thing, setting reminders in your phone, etc.*)

COMMUNITY BUILD

- How can we build spiritual habits together?
- How can we connect outside of small group time and have fun together?

PRAY

We are going to close in prayer.

What prayer requests do y'all have?

Mark 12:30 NIV

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength."

John 15:5 NIV

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

NOTES