



LEADER PREP

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To point students toward finding their purpose in God's bigger plan and to encourage them to take a step to join in on what God is doing in the world right now.

MAIN POINT

You matter more than you think.

MAIN SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 3:5-9 NLT +
Matthew 22:36-40 NLT

THINK ABOUT THIS

Students (especially high schoolers) feel a growing pressure to figure out their plans for college, decide on a career, or just figure out what's next. However not all students have the same opportunity to choose a career that is their passion. And purpose is so much bigger than what career they choose. Some middle school students may already feel pressure from their parents, some may not have it on their radar at all. Either way try to steer the conversation away from just vocation, but instead remind your students that no matter what their profession they can make a difference in our world.

This guide is a suggestion, not a formula. Adjust as needed. Let the students and the Holy Spirit guide the conversation, too.

DISCUSSION GUIDE

GET THEM TALKING

- How was everyone's week? Share Highs & Lows.
- Someone recap the main point of the message in your own words.
- How do you feel about the question, "What do you want to be when you grow up?"
 - How do you typically answer it?
- What do you think it means to make a difference in the world?

INTO THE WORD

READ 1 Corinthians 3:5-9 and discuss:

1. In your own words, what point is Paul trying to make here?

READ Matthew 22:36-40 and discuss:

2. Matthew 22:36-40 can be summed up in 4 words: Love God. Love People. This is a huge part of the bigger purpose God invites us to join.
3. Take the handout and write your name in. God has called you to be a part of His purpose. What are ways you can love God?
4. Make a list of 10 people in your life you see at least on a weekly basis (on your phone or the back of your handout). What are a few things you can do this week to love people on this list?

NEXT STEP

Pair up and talk: what's one thing you can do this week to live out of God's bigger purpose for you in loving God and loving others? Share your idea with each other. Bonus – exchange numbers or emails and encourage each other this week in your goal.

PRAYER GUIDE

We are going to close in prayer. Any prayer requests?

MAIN SCRIPTURES

Scripture is provided for convenience, but we prefer you and your students open your Bibles to read the Scripture. This helps your students learn how to find Scripture in their Bibles and where these verses are in the larger context of God's Word.

1 CORINTHIANS 3:5-9 NLT

⁵ After all, who is Apollos? Who is Paul? We are only God's servants through whom you believed the Good News. Each of us did the work the Lord gave us. ⁶ I planted the seed in your hearts, and Apollos watered it, but it was God who made it grow. ⁷ It's not important who does the planting, or who does the watering. What's important is that God makes the seed grow. ⁸ The one who plants and the one who waters work together with the same purpose. And both will be rewarded for their own hard work. ⁹ For we are both God's workers. And you are God's field. You are God's building.

MATTHEW 22:36-40 NLT

³⁶ "Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?" ³⁷ Jesus replied, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind." ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰ The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments."

LEADER CORNER + NOTES