

SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE

Worth Repeating / Week 4

BEFORE GROUP

BOTTOM LINE

Putting others first changes us and our relationships for the better.

SCRIPTURE

"When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for a person more distinguished than you may have been invited. If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, 'Give this person your seat.' Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place. But when you are invited, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, 'Friend, move up to a better place.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all the other guests. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." (Luke 14:8-11 NIV)

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To encourage students to practice humility by putting others first in their lives.

THINK ABOUT THIS

The ability to see yourself and your choices from someone else's perspective hasn't come for most students in this phase. Their self-awareness develops as they grow, but as middle schoolers, it's still in the early stages of development. That means that seeing how their lack of humility might impact those around them can be difficult. It also makes recognizing the ways they can serve those people challenging. Examples will be key to help their wheels start turning in regards to humility and what it looks like in action.

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.

DURING GROUP

ICE BREAKER

Would you rather spend three hours arguing every day or have a reputation as someone who thinks they are better than everyone else?

DISCUSS THIS

1. On a scale of 1-10, how important do you think it is to have humility?
2. What's one way you can tell someone is humble?
3. What makes it difficult for a middle schooler to be humble?
4. How might believing you know better or are better than someone else change the way you treat them?
5. What's one way putting others first might change your relationships with them?
6. This week, what's one way you can put someone else first?

DO THIS (EXPERIENCE)

Go around the group and ask each student to share one really great thing about someone they know. Students could talk about something this person did, why they're proud of them, how they did something they didn't have to do, or how they demonstrated generosity. Then brainstorm ways they can let that person know the kind words they shared about them. Encourage your few to make a post on social media, write a note, make a phone call, send a text, or talk to the person to let them know how great they think they are.