



SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE

Family Matters / Week 1

BEFORE GROUP

BOTTOM LINE

When it comes to your faith, and your family, love matters most.

SCRIPTURE

"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." (John 13:35 NIV).

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres (1 Corinthians 13:4-7 NIV).

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To help students understand that following Jesus' command to love our neighbor as ourselves includes their family.

THINK ABOUT THIS

Students have all kinds of reasons to believe their family situation is temporary—whether that's because they will be leaving home soon, or their family is fractured so it's not worth the time or effort, or because they are living with relatives or a foster family and it IS impermanent. We want students to realize that however long they are in the current family situation, learning to love their family right now, matters.

Create meaningful conversations. Adjust the questions as needed, and don't feel like you need to answer all of them.

DURING GROUP

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Pull up a meme that best describes your family and describe why you picked the one you did.
2. For upperclassmen: What do you think your relationship with your family will look like after high school? What do you WANT it to look like?
3. Fill in the blank: In my family I am the _____ one.
4. For you, is it easy or difficult to live out your faith in how you treat your family, compared to your friends?
5. Quarantine affected how all of us see our family. If you could rewrite that experience, what would you want to do differently?
6. On a scale of easy to awkward, what is it like to talk about faith in your family?
7. Sometime unrealistic expectations of our family get in the way of live. What are our expectations of our friends versus the expectations was have of family?
8. Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7. Which one of these aspects of love would benefit your family the most?
9. How can this group help you love your family better?

TRY THIS

As a group, brainstorm some ideas for how we can each love our families this week. Then, follow up with each other this week, encouraging one another to love your families when it gets really challenging.