

SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE

The Big Questions / Week 4

BEFORE GROUP

BOTTOM LINE

You matter more than you think.

SCRIPTURE

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. I planted the seed in your hearts, and Apollos watered it, but it was God who made it grow. It's not important who does the planting, or who does the watering. What's important is that God makes the seed grow. The one who plants and the one who waters work together for the same purpose. And both will be rewarded for their own hard work. For both are God's workers. And you are God's field. You are God's building (1 Corinthians 3:5-9 NLT).

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.

THINK ABOUT THIS

At this phase, students feel the 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. 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.

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. How do you feel about the question "What do you want to be when you grow up?" How do you typically answer it?
2. Do you think most teenagers feel pressure to have a "perfect" plan for their future?
3. What do you think it means to make a difference in the world?
4. Why do you think God made people with different talents?
5. What's one thing you're good at?
6. Read Matthew 22:36-40. Jesus said the most important things we can do are love God and love our neighbor as ourselves. How can you use the talent you mentioned above to show love for God or others? How might you use your talents to take one step toward solving a world problem (racism, hunger, poverty, etc.) that you care about?
7. Today we said that your purpose is to love. What's one thing you could do to love others more?
8. The speaker said, "God is at work making the world better and you can be part of that." How does it make you feel to know that God is doing this work? How does it make you feel to know you're being invited to participate?
9. How could you use your talents to participate in what God is already doing in the world now? Which skills could you work on now to be prepared to participate even more in the future?

TRY THIS

Sometimes people develop a vision statement for their life. That's just a one-sentence item that reminds them WHY they exist and who they want to be. Creating a vision statement isn't complicated. This week, text students the following statement. Ask them to pray over how they will fill in the blank and share the answer with you.
This year, I will be part of what God is doing to make the world better by _____.
