

SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE

Take A Bow / Week 3

BEFORE GROUP

BOTTOM LINE

Don't measure your God-given space by the space occupied by someone else.

SCRIPTURE

1 Peter 5:5b NLT

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To point students toward the way comparison can harm their relationship to themselves and others and to encourage them to choose humility when tempted to compare.

THINK ABOUT THIS

Comparison is a vicious cycle. Depending on what and to whom they're comparing, students either end up feeling like they're first or last. At least they do until things change! In one breath, they may feel on top of the world in comparison to others, but in the next, they may feel like the bottom of the barrel. The point? Comparison never takes us anywhere; it's an endless cycle. The only way out? To put on humility! As you talk about that this week, be sure to make the distinction for students that humility doesn't mean being smaller, letting themselves be walked on, or never acknowledging their own gifts and accomplishments. Rather, it's about seeing themselves and others the way God sees them and recognizing that as what matters most about who we all are. When we think of everyone (ourselves included!) that way, there's nothing to compare!

This guide is a suggestion, not a formula. Adjust the content as needed, and don't feel like you need to complete everything listed.

DURING GROUP

DISCUSS THIS

1. In your own words, how would you define "comparison"?
2. How might a high school student compare themselves to others?
3. How do you think comparison maximizes your space? And how might it minimize someone else's?
4. How can practicing humility help you avoid comparing yourself to others?
5. In what ways might humility change your relationship to:
 - a. Yourself?
 - b. Others?
6. What might change if you chose to serve someone else instead of compare?
7. This week, what's one way you can serve someone else in humility?

TRY THIS

Take time this week to pray for your students by name. Ask God to help them recognize when they may be caught up in the cycle of comparison. Pray that they would find confidence in the people God made them to be.