

# SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE

## Take A Bow / Week 4

### BEFORE GROUP

#### BOTTOM LINE

Your space in the world will change over time.

#### SCRIPTURE

*Philippians 2:3-4 NLT*

*Philippians 2:5-6 NLT*

*Matthew 26:37-39 NLT*

#### GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To remind students of the value in real growth taking real time to happen and to encourage them to choose humility as they allow God to grow them in different areas of their lives.

#### THINK ABOUT THIS

Patience is hard for most any of us, but it's especially challenging for teenagers. This generation is growing up in an on-demand world. That means they're conditioned to get what they want when they want it in most areas of life. So, asking them to develop the discipline and patience to wait on growth and change is a big ask! For some students, this is made even more challenging by the perceived lack of growth they've seen in their lives so far. Be sensitive to the students who have prayed and waited for change and growth but feel as though it hasn't come. That's a very real tension to sit in, and we don't want to brush over it. Instead, let students acknowledge how waiting on growth has been challenging and maybe disappointing so far. Then, remind everyone that because growth takes time, it's never too late to see it happen. No matter what, we can humbly trust that God is working in our lives even if seeing the fruit of that work takes time.

*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 what ways might a high schooler want their circumstances to change?
2. Why do you think it's difficult for a high schooler to wait on their circumstances to change?
3. Why do you think it's important that real growth take real time?
4. What makes it challenging to give that kind of growth time?
5. In what ways can choosing humility help you grow?
6. Read Matthew 26:37-39. What can we learn from Jesus' words about growth and humility?
7. What's one area of your life where you want to see growth right now?
8. This week, who is one person you can ask for encouragement as that growth takes time?

#### TRY THIS

As you close this series, send your students a picture of a plant to remind them of the value of growth over time. If you're feeling brave, you can even purchase a small plant to be the physical reminder of this in your Small Group space. (Just be sure to stay on top of keeping that plant alive so it remains growing and thriving, too!)