



SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE

Like Me / Week 2

BEFORE GROUP

BOTTOM LINE

The more I celebrate others, the more I like me.

SCRIPTURE

Whatever mission Saul sent him on, David was so successful that Saul gave him a high rank in the army. This pleased all the troops, and Saul's officers as well (1 Samuel 18:5 NIV).

As they danced, they sang: "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his tens of thousands." Saul was very angry; this refrain displeased him greatly. "They have credited David with tens of thousands," he thought, "but me with only thousands. What more can he get but the kingdom?" And from that time on Saul kept a close eye on David (1 Samuel 18:7-9 NIV).

When Saul saw how successful he was, he was afraid of him. But all Israel and Judah loved David, because he led them in their campaigns (1 Samuel 18:15 NIV).

A heart at peace gives life to the body, but envy rots the bones (Proverbs 14:30 NIV).

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To help students understand that that celebrating others is an effective way to combat jealousy.

THINK ABOUT THIS

Leaders, in this phase high schoolers cognitively know what gossip is but may not be able to point it out in the moment. Small Group should be the safest place for conversation and connection to happen. As a Small Group Leader, it's our job to model respectful and life-giving conversation. Which means protecting the group from gossip and harmful joking. Even if it seems like no one is offended. While gossip and joking can be the quickest road to connection, it can erode relationships over time.

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

DURING GROUP

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Who is one person, real or fictional, you are jealous of? Why?
2. How have you seen jealousy affect the way people treat others?
3. What fuels jealousy? What fuels celebrating others?
4. What area of your life do you struggle with comparing yourself to others?
5. How can you celebrate the people you go to school with?
6. Proverbs 14:30 says "envy rots the bones." In your own words, what do you think that means?
7. Can you think of a time in your life when jealousy/envy overtook your life?
8. How would celebrating others change your perspective of them and yourself?
9. What are some ways you can pursue having a "heart at peace"?

XP (Experience Piece)

This XP will encourage students to celebrate one another as well as focus on the positive things in their lives on a continual basis. Using small pieces of paper, pens/pencils, and jars (or some sort of container, enough for each student), have your students write down one thing they like about each other. After all the pieces of paper have been collected for each student, place them in a jar (one for each student). Have your students take home the jar, and when they find themselves discouraged, frustrated, or doubting who they are or what they have to celebrate, they can pull out a note to read and be encouraged. Be sure to write some yourself for each student!