



## THIS OR THAT WEEK 3: 11.21.21

### LEADER PREP

#### SERIES TAGLINE

Our identity shouldn't come from comparing ourselves to others; our identity should come from what God says about us.

#### TODAY'S MAIN POINT

God wants us to see ourselves the way He does.

#### SCRIPTURE

Romans 12:2 & 6

#### GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To encourage students to recognize the way God sees them and to practice seeing themselves the same way.

#### THINK ABOUT THIS

Thinking about the way God sees them may be a challenge for your middle schoolers. For some, that's because it's never occurred to them that God even thinks about them at all! Or for others, it's because they struggle to see beyond how they feel. Not only do you want them to understand that God does see and think about them, but you want them to know exactly what He thinks so that it can change their thinking about both Him and themselves.



### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

*Create meaningful conversations.*

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

#### THE CHECK IN

- How was everyone's week? Share Highs & Lows.
- Someone recap the main point of the message.

#### THE WORD

- READ Romans 12:2.
- What is this verse telling us NOT to do?
- Why?
- READ Romans 12:6.
- What is this verse telling us to do?
- How are we described in this verse?

#### APPLICATION

- On a scale from 1-10, show me on your fingers how much you FEEL like you are "excellently formed"? *Don't worry about anyone else's answer, be honest with yourself.*
- How does it feel to know that God says you matter, that you are wonderfully made?
- Take home the YOU MATTER TO GOD Bible Verse handout. Put it somewhere you will see and remember God wants you to see yourself the way He does.

#### COMMUNITY BUILD

- The holidays are almost here! What's everyone's favorite Thanksgiving food?
- How can we celebrate the holidays together? Friendsgiving? Christmas cookie decorating (and/or eating) contest? Etc?

#### PRAY

We are going to close in prayer.  
Anyone have any prayer requests?

### **ROMANS 12:2 NLT**

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

### **ROMANS 12: 6 MSG**

So, since we find ourselves fashioned into all these excellently formed and marvelously functioning parts in Christ's body, let's just go ahead and be what we were made to be, without enviously or pridefully comparing ourselves with each other, or trying to be something we aren't.

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### **NOTES**