



THIS OR THAT WEEK 2: 11.14.21

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 POINTS

(1) When we stop comparing, we can better connect with Jesus.

(2) When we stop comparing, we can better celebrate others.

SCRIPTURE

MAIN: 1 Samuel 18:8-9;

OPTIONAL: Proverbs 14:30 & 2 Peter 2:1-3

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To encourage students to see how jealousy impacts their thinking and that God has better for them.

THINK ABOUT THIS

Comparison too often turns to jealousy. Your middle schoolers probably know jealousy is wrong, but they may not yet fully recognize the impacts of jealousy in damaging their relationships with others, their self-image, their hearts, or how it can hinder our relationship with Jesus.

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



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

THE CHECK IN

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

THE WORD

- READ 1 Samuel 18:8-9. How did jealousy impact Saul & David's relationship?
- READ Proverbs 14:30. How does jealousy impact us from the inside out?
- How does jealousy impact:
 - Your friendships?
 - The way you see yourself?
 - The way you see the things you have?
 - Your relationship with Jesus?

APPLICATION

- When we notice jealousy in our hearts, we can turn to God in prayer to ask for forgiveness. If a friend were to ask you, "How can I pray to ask God for forgiveness?", what would you tell them?
- Once we've turned to God in prayer to change our hearts, we can choose to follow His ways and celebrate others instead of envying them. What are different things we can do to celebrate others?

COMMUNITY BUILD

- As a group, create a celebration dance or handshake that's unique to your group.
- The final Squad Night is this Tuesday and it's ALL IN CRAZY BINGO. Who can you invite?

PRAY

We are going to close in prayer a little different today. We are going to take a few minutes in silent prayer, to take time to ask God to forgive us for any jealousy in our hearts. Before we begin, any prayer requests?

Leaders: End your prayer by praising God for renewing our hearts.

1 SAMUEL 18:8-9 NLT

This made Saul very angry. “What’s this?” he said. “They credit David with ten thousands and me with only thousands. Next they’ll be making him their king!” So from that time on Saul kept a jealous eye on David.

1 PETER 2:1-3 NLT

So get rid of all evil behavior. Be done with all deceit, hypocrisy, jealousy, and all unkind speech. **2** Like newborn babies, you must crave pure spiritual milk so that you will grow into a full experience of salvation. Cry out for this nourishment, **3** now that you have had a taste of the Lord’s kindness.

PROVERBS 14:30 IV

A heart at peace gives life to the body, but envy rots the bones.

NOTES