

awkward.

MS
MIM
MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRY

Week 1
2.6.21

LEADER PREP

MAIN POINT

What we do with our desire matters.

SCRIPTURE

Romans 12:1-2 NIV

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To help students recognize that God has a plan for sex and their sexual desires and to encourage them to choose to honor Him with their choices.

THINK ABOUT THIS

Leading a conversation about sex and dating with your middle schoolers can be challenging, and that's not just because it's awkward. Your middle schoolers will come to this conversation from all kinds of places: embarrassed or grossed out, uninterested, curious, eager to learn more, beginning experiences with sex and dating. **Whatever their perspective, remember that this conversation is important. It's planting seeds** that will hopefully help them develop healthy habits when it comes to sex and dating. So, **make sure you are creating a safe space for students to share without fear of judgment.** Finally, remember that you may have students who have experienced sexual abuse on some level. This conversation could lead them to eventually open up to you about that, so be prepared to follow up, support, and point them toward help if and when they do.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

THE CHECK IN

- How was everyone's week? Share Highs & Lows.
- Someone recap the main point of the message.
- What's the funniest awkward moment you've seen or experienced?
- Show with your fingers, On a scale of 1-10, how awkward do you feel talking about desires and attraction?

THE WORD

- READ Romans 12:1-2 NIV.
- What are some things that make it hard to live differently than others?
- What are some good things that come out of us living the way God calls us to?
- How does it make you feel to know that God created things like desires and attraction?
- What does it look like when somebody has integrity?
- Why does sexual integrity matter?

APPLICATION

- Please know you can always talk to me more about this - I'm here for you. Who are other adults in your life you can talk to about this?
- DO THIS: Give out paper + pens. Have students write down any questions they have on this topic. Over the next few weeks, we will try to answer these questions. If you don't have any, just write you don't have any so everyone feels comfortable writing.

COMMUNITY BUILD

- How can we connect outside of small group time and have fun together?

PRAY

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

ROMANS 12:1-2 NIV

"Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will."

NOTES