

You Belong Here
Wk 2/4: We Belong Here
August 29 & 30, 2020



LEADER PREP

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To encourage students to know that they are never alone AND we can grow in our faith better when we encourage each other.

SCRIPTURE

[Genesis 2:18](#)

[Hebrews 10:24-25](#)

THINK ABOUT THIS

“Odd as it seems, teens and young adults are lonelier than any other age group.” Teens today are more connected to the world around them than any other generation, so why do they FEEL so lonely? Three main causes, according to a recent survey:
1) Loss of someone they have a strong attachment to (break up, new sports team, new school)
2) Feeling excluded by others
3) A “sense of detachment alienation, and isolation” even in another’s presence

What can WE do?

- 1) Get to know each of our students for who they are as INDIVIDUALS
 - 2) Connect with them on an individual level (For example, if they tell you about a big soccer game one week, ask them about it the next or show up at the game to cheer them on!)
 - 3) Provide a strong, welcoming community for them to belong
- For more, you can read the full article [“Why Are Teens So Lonely, and What Can They Do About It?”](#)

This guide is a suggestion, not a formula. Adjust the questions and activities as needed, and don’t feel like you need to do, or ask, everything you see here. Let the students and the Holy Spirit guide the conversation, too.

CONVERSATION GUIDE

MAIN POINT

Let’s ENCOURAGE each other to grow in OUR relationship with Jesus Christ.

GET THEM TALKING

What are some things that are better to do with a group of people than alone? (Examples: play sports, build the Eiffel tower or something else crazy big and crazy cool, sleepovers)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why do we feel alone sometimes?

READ [Genesis 2:18](#) & [Hebrews 10:24-25](#).

Then answer the following questions:

1. What in these verses let us know we are never alone?
2. What does the verse from Hebrews encourage us to do?
3. What are ways we can grow closer together? Let’s brainstorm 10 different ideas! (Some ideas to kick-start your thinking: Ice cream party, group messages, sleep over, play soccer in the park) ****Leaders, use this time to learn and take notes of different ways your students would like to connect and make it a goal to do at least one of these things before the end of the semester. Tell your coach your goal.
4. What are ways WE can encourage one another to GROW in our faith year? ****Leaders, same thing here!

NEXT STEP

What is ONE WAY we can keep encouraging each other to GROW in our faith together this semester?

Some ideas to kick-start your thinking:

- 1) Pick a memory verse once a month and try memorizing it together. (recommended Hebrews 10:24-25)
- 2) Text each other Bible verses and/or encouragement once a week.
- 3) Pick a charity or missionary and raise money together for them
- 4) Every Sunday pick a new prayer partner in our group then you pray for that person and text them encouragement that week.
- 5) Do a Bible App devotional together

PRAYER GUIDE

Ask students their prayer requests and close your time together in prayer.

SCRIPTURE

MS students are concrete thinkers, so opening your Bible to read the Scripture with them is a preferred visual cue.

GENESIS 2:18 (NLT)

“Then the Lord God said, It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him.”

HEBREWS 10:24-25 (NLT)

“²⁴ Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. ²⁵ And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.”