



SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE

More Than Friends / Week 1

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

LEADER PREP

CONVERSATION GUIDE

BOTTOM LINE

Dating is great, but thinking is better.

SCRIPTURE

Some time later, he fell in love with a woman in the Valley of Sorek whose name was Delilah. The rulers of the Philistines went to her and said, "See if you can lure him into showing you the secret of his great strength and how we can overpower him so we may tie him up and subdue him. Each one of us will give you eleven hundred shekels of silver" (Judges 16:4-5 NIV).

"How can you say, 'I love you,' when you won't confide in me? This is the third time you have made a fool of me and haven't told me the secret of your great strength." With such nagging she prodded him day after day until he was sick to death of it (Judges 16:15-16 NIV).

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To help students begin to think clearly and long-term when it comes to their current or future dating relationships.

THINK ABOUT THIS

Leaders—some of your students may have been dating for years, while others may have never been on a date. Be careful not to leave out non-dating students by using inclusive phrases like, "whether or not you're dating someone right now," as you lead this discussion.

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

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do people at your school use the term *dating*? If so, what does that mean? If no, what terms do they use?
2. Whether you're dating someone or not, what percentage of time do you spend thinking about it?
3. Why do you think the average high schooler wants to date?
4. Whether you're dating someone or not, how does being obsessed with someone lead you to use poor judgment?
5. Do you think it's possible for someone to be a good person, but not a good person for you to date? Why or why not?
6. God made you and has something great in mind for you. How could a dating relationship help or hinder the non-dating parts of your life today and in your future?

TRY THIS

Leaders—encourage your students to think of one piece of dating advice they'd give to someone three years younger than them.