



SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE

More Than Friends / Week 2

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

LEADER PREP

BOTTOM LINE

Your perspective is your pick.

SCRIPTURE

A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones (Proverbs 17:22 NIV).

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! (Philippians 4:4 NIV).

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things (Philippians 4:8 NIV).

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To help students understand that while they can't always pick their circumstances when it comes to dating, they can always pick their perspective.

THINK ABOUT THIS

Leaders—be sensitive to the fact that some of your students aren't dating right now and might feel a little embarrassed about that. Be careful not to accidentally single-out a student for not being in a dating relationship right now.

CONVERSATION GUIDE

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

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why do you think dating is such a big deal in high school?
2. When things aren't going well, how does it feel when people tell you to change your perspective (i.e. "Cheer up, man!" "You just need to change your attitude.")?
3. How can dating affect the way people see the rest of their lives?
4. Why do most people believe that they don't have control over their emotions?
5. What are some things you can miss out on if you let your dating life—good or bad—dominate your thoughts?
6. What's one thing you can do to keep dating frustrations from dominating your thoughts?

TRY THIS

Leaders—remind your students that what they think about matters by texting them this verse: *Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things (Philippians 4:8 NIV).*