



SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE

Stuck / Week 1

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

LEADER PREP

BOTTOM LINE

You're not as stuck as you think you are.

SCRIPTURE

Some time later Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us go back and visit the believers in all the towns where we preached the word of the Lord and see how they are doing." Barnabas wanted to take John, also called Mark, with them, but Paul did not think it wise to take him, because he had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in the work. They had such a sharp disagreement that they parted company. Barnabas took Mark and sailed for Cyprus, but Paul chose Silas and left, commended by the believers to the grace of the Lord (Acts 15:36-40 NIV).

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To help students understand that sometimes it's healthy to move on from certain relationships.

THINK ABOUT THIS

Leaders—at this phase, relationships change quickly and sometimes need to come to an end. But students haven't had much practice in how and when to end a relationship. While their relationships may not feel like a big deal to you, they're a big deal to them. Be patient as you help them navigate what they're going through.

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. What are some signs that it's time to make a change in a friendship or relationship?
2. Why is it so difficult to move on from a friendship or relationship?
3. How could staying in a friendship or relationship too long be an unhealthy thing to do?
4. In what ways can a good person be bad for you, or bad for you *right now*?
5. What does it look like to walk away from a relationship *without* bashing the other person?
6. Think about where you want to be in 5, 10, or 15 years. Who *should* be on this journey with you? Who is headed in that direction? Who encourages you?
7. At some point, you may need to move away from a friendship or relationship to move towards what God has for you. What's one step you can take if it's time to move away from an unhealthy relationship?

TRY THIS

Leaders—before your students head out this week, share with them a few possible steps they can take to move away from an unhealthy relationship. Ask your students to think about which step they might need to take this week:

- a) Have a tough conversation.
- b) Begin investing in other friendships.
- c) Ask their parents for help.