



# SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE

Underestimated / Week 3

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

## LEADER PREP

### BOTTOM LINE

Never underestimate wise adults in your life.

### SCRIPTURE

1 Timothy 4:12 NIV; 1 Timothy 5:1-2 NLT

### GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To encourage students to turn up the volume on the voices of wise adults in their lives.

### THINK ABOUT THIS

What's interesting about the middle school phase is that while their social skills aren't yet fully developed, students are hyper-aware of and concerned about their social wellness. Because of that, they're particularly aware of the way their peers perceive them. They care more about those voices than the voices of adults in their life. In fact, they're outgrowing the desire for adults in their life at all! They want to be perceived as fitting in with their peers rather than following or falling in line with adults.

## CONVERSATION GUIDE

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.

### JUST FOR FUN

What's the loudest place you've ever been?

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

**When you're surrounded by so much noise, it's hard to hear what's important, right?**

1. What's one example of "noise" in the lives of most middle schoolers?
2. On a scale of 1-10, how important do you think the voices of adults are in your life? Why? (1 being not important at all and 10 being really important.)
3. On a scale of 1-10, how difficult is it for you to listen to adults? Why? (1 being really difficult and 10 being really easy.)
4. What are some characteristics of an adult whose voice you want to turn up in your life?
5. What's one example of how you can turn down someone's voice in your life?
6. Why does who you listen to matter?
7. Is there one adult in your life whose voice you know could help you?
8. What's one way you can turn up the volume on their voice this week?

### XP (EXPERIENCE)

Hand out the provided worksheet to your few and ask them to fill it out. Explain that once they've identified who they'd like to invite to speak into their life, they should actually invite them! They can do this by texting them, calling them, talking to them, or actually giving them the card they filled out during group.

# INVITE AN ADULT IN

Sometimes in life it seems like there's so much noise happening around us that it's hard to listen to the people we really want to hear. And it's important that we figure out who we should listen to so that they can speak loudly into our lives and help us grow in our faith. Use this worksheet to help figure out how a wise adult can positively impact you and help you in your walk with God.

## 1) WHO SHOULD SPEAK INTO YOUR LIFE?

*Ask these questions before you decide whose voice you should listen to:*

- Do they make wise decisions in their own life?
  - Do they care enough about me to tell me what I don't want to hear?
  - Have they proven themselves to be trustworthy to other teenagers like me?
- If you answered "yes" to all of these questions, then that's a sign that their voice has value.*

## 2) WHAT'S A BIG ISSUE YOU'RE DEALING WITH RIGHT NOW?

Figure out an area in your life where you can use some advice from someone older and wiser.

## 3) INVITE SOMEONE IN!

Ask someone to speak into your life and help you with whatever is impacting you right now. Fill out the below card and give it as an invitation to an adult you'd like to speak into your life.

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

You're an important role model to me and I value your advice. I'm trying to figure \_\_\_\_\_ out right now and I'm wondering if you can help me work through it.

Thank you,

\_\_\_\_\_