



SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE

The Good Life / Week 2

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

LEADER PREP

BOTTOM LINE

If you want a good life, care about your reputation.

SCRIPTURE

A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold (Proverbs 22:1 NIV).

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To encourage students to think about what they want to be known for and to start making choices that positively impact their reputations, both today and in the future.

THINK ABOUT THIS

Hey SGL: This week's conversation may be a tricky one to navigate. Middle schoolers tend to see things in others more clearly than they see things in themselves. That means that when they talk about a subject like this one, they'll want to focus the conversation on the reputations of others rather than think about their own reputation. Be up front to remind them not to talk specifically about others or use names in their conversation and be quick to shut it down if they try. The goal here isn't to name or shame the reputations of others, but instead to help them start practicing self-awareness and to take control of their own reputations.

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.

XP (EXPERIENCE)

One-at-a-time, pull up the photos your Ministry Leader sent to you before group time. Ask your students, "What do you know about this person?" and "Why do you think that about them?" Use this conversation as an opportunity to discuss the importance of building a good reputation in your students' own lives.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What makes or breaks a reputation in middle school?
2. What does it take to get a reputation?
3. Do you think reputations are always a negative thing? Why or why not?
4. What's something you want to be known for and why?
5. Do you think it's important to care about your reputation? Why or why not?
6. What's one way you're in control of your reputation?
7. How might your reputation today impact your future?
8. What's one step you can take to positively impact your reputation?