



SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE

Your Friends/ WEEK 1

BEFORE GROUP

BOTTOM LINE

Your friendships determine the direction and quality of your life.

SCRIPTURE

Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm.

// Proverbs 13:20

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

SERIES OVERVIEW

Friendship in middle school can be tough! It's tempting to think that who we surround ourselves with has nothing to do with our future. In this three-part series, we'll encourage students to evaluate their friendships and understand why they matter. We'll help them discover that they have control over who they spend time with, and that the best friends make their friends better

DURING GROUP

CONVERSATION STARTERS

1. How would you describe the green friends in middle school?
2. How do you know if someone is a red friend?
3. Which type of friend is the easiest to find at your school?

WHAT GOD SAYS

4. Read the Scripture. What happens to the people who walk with wise people? (They become wise.)
5. What happens to the people who are companions of fools? (They suffer harm.)
6. If we were writing this for people in 2026, how would we say the phrase "the companion of fools suffers harm"?

WHAT WE CAN DO

7. When you saw the final jar on stage, do you think you are the person who likes a lot of friends or fewer close friends?
8. Do you need help identifying red friends or do you already know? How?
9. Is there an area of your life where it seems tougher to find green friends? (at home on the weekends, during lunch time, during the summer, during homeroom, etc.)

TRY THIS

School is starting in a few weeks! Send individual encouraging messages to each of your students on your roster this week, and let them know you are praying for them.