

SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE

Love/Hate / Week 2

BEFORE GROUP

BOTTOM LINE

Let love be your filter.

SCRIPTURE

Dear brothers and sisters, if another believer is overcome by some sin, you who are godly should gently and humbly help that person back onto the right path. And be careful not to fall into the same temptation yourself. Share each other's burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ (Galatians 6:1-2 NLT).

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To help students understand the difference between calling someone out and lovingly confronting a hurtful behavior.

THINK ABOUT THIS

Leaders, at this phase it can be tricky for high school students to know how to talk with a friend about their unhealthy behavior. Sometimes the only reference point a student has for difficult conversations is what they have seen among family members. As leaders, it's our job to model and discuss what helpful, loving, and honest communication looks like. Sometimes that means confronting a student privately or coaching them as they prepare to talk with a friend.

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.

DURING GROUP

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What's your favorite Instagram or Snapchat filter?
2. What are the different filters that you use for different people or situations?
3. What are some situations where it may be difficult for a high schooler to get involved or speak up when we know we should say something? *Examples: Gossiping about others, lying, etc.*
4. How can you tell the difference between being judgmental and being helpful? *Leader note: Try referring back to the previous examples.*
5. Why is it important to have a relationship with someone in order to get involved or speak up?
6. Read Galatians 6:1-2. What does it look like to carry someone else's burden? Have you ever had someone do that for you? Have you ever done that for someone else?
7. Do you know anyone who does a great job of filtering his or her involvement, words, and actions through love? If so, what stands out about this person? How would you describe their effect?

TRY THIS

Have your small group come up with a set of ground rules they can begin to use to help them speak the truth in love to one another. Use the following questions to help your students create the rules:

- What things will we say? What things will we not say?
- How will we say it?
- Who will we say it to? Who will we not say it to?
- What will we do to remind the person we care about them after this conversation is over?

Write down your small group's ground rules and share them with the group via text this week.