

SGL GUIDE INTEGRATED

Start the Party / Week 6

SO HOW DOES THIS WORK?

The SGL Guide Integrated incorporates teaching time with small group time so that the message is broken up and discussed along the way.

TEACHING LIVE

The speaker will identify key moments to pause during the message and direct students to turn to their small groups and discuss. You as the speaker can decide when, where, and how often to pause, or you can watch the teaching video to get some ideas!

TEACHING VIDEO

The communicator on the teaching video will pause at key moments and a cue will appear on the screen. Remember to pause the video and give your group time to discuss. Your church may give you a specific amount of time for each pause or leave it up to you. When the conversation is ready to transition, start up the video again.

For this video, you will pause for small group conversation at the following times:

01:25

02:37

06:30

07:11

07:58

08:46

After the video, be sure to wrap up with more discussion if needed or prayer time.

DON'T FORGET

READ AHEAD

No matter where or how you lead your group, it's important to spend a few minutes preparing. Take time to read the THINK ABOUT THIS section which will set you up to meet your students right where they are. And don't forget the GOAL OF SMALL GROUP which will point your conversation in the right direction.

MAKE IT PERSONAL

Remember, nobody knows your group quite like you. Just because a question appears on a piece of paper or on screen doesn't mean you have to ask it or use the same words. Ultimately, YOU are guiding the conversation for your group. So feel free to add, delete, or adapt questions to meet their needs.

LET THEM KNOW WHAT IS HAPPENING

Chances are, your few are curious what group will look like if you're changing formats. At the beginning of group time, give them an idea how the format may have changed so they will know what to expect.

SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE

Start the Party / Week 6

BEFORE GROUP

BOTTOM LINE

A party starter uses what they have for the good of others.

SCRIPTURE

Jesus replied, "What does the law of Moses say? How do you read it?" The man answered, "'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind.' And, 'Love your neighbor as yourself'" (Luke 10:26-27 NLT).

"A Jewish man was traveling from Jerusalem down to Jericho, and he was attacked by bandits. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him up, and left him half dead beside the road" (Luke 10:30 NLT).

"Then a despised Samaritan came along, and when he saw the man, he felt compassion for him" (Luke 10:33 NLT).

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To encourage students to use what they have to meet the needs of others.

THINK ABOUT THIS

When you talk about loving our neighbors, be sure to remind students what this means in the context of Scripture. Jesus didn't mean their literal neighbors (though those people are certainly on the list!). He meant all people! As a follower of Jesus, every single person you encounter is a neighbor you're called to love. Be sure to challenge your middle schoolers to think outside the box here! First, help them recognize that the call to love their neighbor isn't just a call to love the people they get along with, are close to, or even like. It's a call to love *everyone*, even the kid they don't understand, or the girl they don't want to include, or the boy who drives them crazy. Then, help them think in creative ways about what they have to give others. Some students may not have time, money, or resources readily available to give, and that's okay! Everyone has *something* to offer, and that something is what you can help your group discover this week!

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

DISCUSS THIS

After the first break, discuss this question:

1. Who is one person you've seen do something to meet a need in the world? Tell us about them!

After the second break, discuss this question:

2. What might make it difficult to meet the needs in the world around us?

After the third break, discuss these questions:

3. Why do you think Jesus made such a big deal about loving our neighbors?
4. How is meeting a need part of loving your neighbor?

After the fourth break, discuss this question:

5. What are the needs you see . . .
 - a. In your neighborhood?
 - b. At your school?
 - c. In your friendships?
 - d. In your home?
 - e. In your community/city?
 - f. In your small group?
 - g. In the world?

After the fifth break, discuss these questions:

6. What's one need that you really care about?
7. What might change about the world if you chose to help meet that need?
8. What is one talent, resource, or skill you already have that you could use to meet that need?

After the sixth break, complete this activity:

DO THIS (EXPERIENCE)

End your small group time by serving together in your church using the items provided by your ministry leader. Check with your ministry leader for a list of ways other departments in your church can be served. Cast vision by saying something like, *"We can always use what we have to serve someone else. So, we're going to do that right here and right now!"*
