

SMALL GROUP GUIDE [MS] | FOCUS [OCT. 12]

SCRIPTURE | Exodus 32:1-17

BOTTOM LINE

When we lose our focus on God, our life gets blurry.

MEMORY VERSE

“I look at this people—stubborn, people! But I’ll make a great nation out of you.” EXODUS 32:10 (MSG)

LIFE APP

Find a simple way of finding focus with God.



- Tonight we will use the lights and production as a tool to help us focus on specific things around the room. Help students engage with the experience.
- What might be making God blurry for your group during our worship service? Is there something we can do differently?

MY GOAL FOR THE NIGHT |



Idol is an often used word to describe something we cherish more than God. We talk of “idolizing” people and even have our show, “American Idol”. The truth is, much time and focus is spent on the idols themselves, that we lose the ultimate purpose of the story. The story is that the Israelites grew impatient with God, so they made something that could represent God for them to look at. In the process, their focus on God became very blurry. Does life feel blurred for you sometimes? Maybe there’s a problem with focus.

JUST FOR FUN

- Icebreaker – What is it like to have blurred vision?
- If you could “un-focus” or “un-see” one thing in your life, what would it be?
- Use the games/activities sheet.



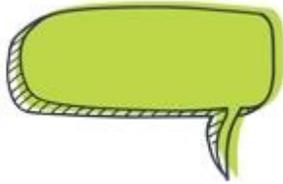
“Our story tonight drives home the point that things in our lives can make our life with God blurry. In worship, we can at times replace God. Let’s talk.”

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Think about the story from the Israelites perspective. What do you think they wanted to do by “making an idol” of a golden calf?
- What did the golden calf represent for them in worship?
- God became very blurry for the Israelites. What is it like to have blurred vision? How do you regain good vision?
- Work backwards. Instead of starting with focus on God, focus on blurriness. What in life feels blurry right now?
- How can a blurry experience help understand good focus on God in worship + life?
- What experiences or people in life gave you blurriness? Did God intervene in some way to help you out of it?
- When we have focus on God, life can have clarity. What can help us focus on God in school, relationships, sports, family, etc.?



On the table or the floor, make a “9 square” grid with the tape provided to you. Each grid will have a different post-it note in it. Come up with 9 parts of life that you can have focus in (for instance, sports, school, etc.) and then put them on the post-it notes. Each person gets an opportunity to throw a crumpled up piece of paper on the 9 square grid. Whatever it lands on, have that person talk about what focus/blurriness looks like in that category.



EXTRAS
