

STUMMIN

SMALL GROUP
LEADER GUIDE

MIDDLE
SCHOOL
FOCUS

DO SOMETHING MARCH 17, 2021

Week 3 of a 4-week series
about injustice

BOTTOM LINE

God is doing something
about injustice.

SCRIPTURE

*When Jesus saw the crowds,
He had compassion on them
because they were confused
and helpless, like sheep
without a shepherd. He said
to his disciples, "The harvest is
great, but the workers are few."*

- Matthew 9:36-37 NLT

*All of you together are
Christ's body, and each of
you is a part of it.*

- 1 Corinthians 12:27 NLT

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To encourage students
to join God in His response
to injustice.

>> BEFORE GROUP

THINK ABOUT THIS: This week's conversation may be especially difficult for your group to grasp. For starters, it requires some abstract thinking to look for a God at work who we can't actually see. That's an ability they're still developing. In addition, it asks them to step up and take responsibility. How will they be a part of the solution? This might be hard for some of your students who feel too young, too powerless, or potentially even too unmoved to act in response to injustice. They may not see themselves as people who can do anything or even want to do anything about injustice. And finally, for those experiencing injustice themselves, this conversation may leave them with more questions than answers at first. They may struggle to see how God is at work when the injustice they're experiencing is still very real. No matter where your students come from in this conversation, it isn't your job to necessarily change their mind. Instead, it's your job to be a safe space where they can process honestly and maybe, just maybe, begin to consider the good God at work against injustice in the world.

>> DURING GROUP

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.

DISCUSS THIS:

- If you could put a warning label on something or someone, who/what would it be?
- What part of middle school should come with a warning label?
- On a scale of 1 to 10, how frustrated are you when you don't get an easy answer to a question you've asked? Or, when somebody answers a question WITH a question?
- Why do you think it's important to ask questions when we see injustice?
- What's a question that you've asked about injustice?
- Name one way that God has shown you that He cares about injustice? (For example: Share about a time you've seen God use someone to speak up against injustice.)
- How does it feel to know God invites us to be part of fighting injustice?
- How do you think you can be part of working against the injustice you've chosen to learn more about?

DO THIS:

- As a group, decide on how you'd like to pray: Small group leader led, student led, individual silent prayer, or popcorn prayer. Then, use these prompts to get your prayer time started:
 - Pray that God will change the way you see Him.
 - Pray that God will show you what it looks like to follow Him.
 - Pray that God will change the way you see others.
 - Pray that God will give you the courage to do something about injustice.

STUMMIN

SMALL GROUP
LEADER GUIDE

HIGH
SCHOOL
FOCUS

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>> BEFORE GROUP

THINK ABOUT THIS: When high schoolers begin to notice injustice around them, it is natural to assume God is either not GOOD or not ABLE. Remember as you lead this week that wrestling with big questions about God is a good and necessary part of faith development. As leaders, we can help students develop a more mature understanding that God is both good and able AND has chosen to use His people to demonstrate His character.

>> DURING GROUP

Create meaningful conversations. Adjust the questions as needed and ask thoughtful follow-up questions as the conversation unfolds. Don't feel like you need to answer every question.

DISCUSS THIS:

- If you could put a warning label on something or someone, who/what would it be?
- What part of high school should come with a warning label?
- What's one thing you've learned during this series so far? Do you see anything from a different perspective now?
- If Jesus were here now and walking on Earth, how do you think He would react to some of the injustices in our town or in our world?
- Re-read 1 Corinthians 12:27. What might our small group's role be in fighting injustice?
- Why do you think it matters that people in high school care about injustice, even if the injustice doesn't affect us?
- If part of our faith is fighting injustice, how can you grow in your faith this year?
- Who are some organizations you know who are already fighting injustices? Are any of you already involved in these organizations? Think through these filters:
 - At your school
 - In your community
 - In your state
 - In your country
 - Internationally
- From today's message: What do you see that is breaking your heart? How can you take the compassion, skills, and resources God has given you and use them to help bring justice to the injustices God has placed on your heart?

>> AFTER GROUP

Make a list of organizations that are currently fighting injustices in the categories you discussed during small group. Each day this week, group text your students the name of one group and encourage them to follow that group on social media.