



## Habits / Week 4

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### BEFORE GROUP

#### BOTTOM LINE

Talking about God helps us know Him better.

#### SCRIPTURE

*When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus (Acts 4:13 NIV).*

#### GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To help students see how talking about God can help them grow in their faith and to encourage them to find the confidence to start talking to others about God.

#### THINK ABOUT THIS

Talking about God isn't always easy. Even adults struggle to find a natural way to do this. If that's the case, just imagine how your middle schoolers might

feel! Remember that while this week's topic is about sharing the news of Jesus with others, it's also very much about encouraging students to talk about ways they've seen, experienced, or come to know God in a real and personal way. It's about sharing their own stories about Him with others. But it's also about sharing their questions and doubts. Not every student in your group is a believer in or follower of Jesus. And even those who are believers may grapple with doubts and questions along the way. Make sure to encourage students to talk about those things as well. One of the best ways we can discover more of the truth about God is to ask questions and what better place to do that than in your small 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.*

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### DURING GROUP

#### DO THIS (EXPERIENCE) 1

Set up your meeting space as a "storytelling" environment by putting an LED candle or campfire video on your phone in the middle of the group. (Or set up a s'mores station!) Start the conversation by sharing one thing God has done in your life. Then go around to each student and have them share the same. Remind students that they don't need to know everything to talk about God. They can simply think about His character instead of trying to have all the answers.

#### DISCUSS THIS

1. On a scale of 1 to 10, how encouraged did you feel hearing other people talk about God?
2. On a scale of 1 to 10, how comfortable did you feel talking about God?
3. What's one thing that might hold you back from talking about God?
4. How can this group encourage each other as we talk about God?

#### DO THIS (EXPERIENCE) 2

End your time in prayer, thanking God for the stories shared and asking for His help to grow and encourage each other as you talk about God.

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