DATE: Sep. 11, 2024

SERIES: For Real, Tho

TOPIC: Who Am 1?



Big Question: Who are you? (**HINT:** A child of God!) What makes you, you?? How are you SIMILAR to others (find common connections within the group!) and how are you UNIQUE (what is something about you that is different than everyone else?) **Take time to discover! Takeaway:** Have students introduce themselves! **Who are you?** (both NEW & RETURNING students participate). This is a BIG question in LIFE, and a good one to start the year with!

GETTING STARTED

- **WELCOME BACK!** Anyone NEW this year? (Be sure they get supplies if REGISTERED) For those who are just visiting as a friend, they can get supplies after they officially register.
- **TAKE ATTENDANCE!** If you have any students on your roster who did not show, please make notes if you have an update. Or, if anyone knows them, please text them!
 - O Please make notes, and we can follow up with their families as well!

DISCUSSION STARTERS

- SUMMER RECAP Share one (or TWO) big HIGHLIGHTS from this past Summer!
- SCHOOL YEAR What is something EXCITING about the school year ahead?
 - o Is anyone nervous about something in the year ahead?
- **HIGHS/LOWS** take time to go around the circle allow space for students to share HIGHS (what's going well right now) and LOWS (what's not so great at the moment?)
 - o Leaders, be mindful to offer encouragement (for both!!)

SMALL GROUP COVENANT!

- Take time to begin making suggestions and write down what you would like to include in your group covenant! Students should share their expectations for the group, and leaders should share their expectations, too!
- NOTE: NEXT week (Sep 18) we will officially sign these covenants as a group!

WEEKEND WORSHIP JOURNALS

 Please make sure everyone picked up a Weekend Worship Journal! The goal is to complete the ENTIRE booklet this Fall! Students who do so will receive a PRIZE (still TBD on what the prize will be). NO MORE "Drop Box" for notes in the atrium.

OPEN YOUR BIBLES!

- Remind students to bring their Bibles EVERY Week! (we have extras in the rooms or at the Leader Table if anyone needs to borrow one for the week!)
- Have students look up the following verses (pick a different student for each one!)
 - O NOTE: encourage them to work together to find the pages.
 - John 1:12
 - Romans 8:14-16
 - Galatians 3:26
 - 1 John 3:1
 - O NOTE: These are all great verses to HIGHLIGHT as well! Do it!
- QUESTION: According to these verses, what does a person need to do in order to be considered a Child of God? (i.e. believe in his name "Jesus", be led by the Spirit of God, have faith in Jesus Christ, etc.)
- Of all the "TITLES" you can have in life (Son/Daughter, Brother/Sister, Friend, Athlete, Musician, Artist, Smart, Funny, Tall/Short, Pretty, Strong, Kind, etc.) WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER that you are a CHILD OF GOD? (open group discussion)

FOR THE WEEK AHEAD!

- Have students look up ONE MORE verse.
 - Ephesians 5:1-2
- QUESTION: How will you "live a life filled with love" this week? (Share ideas!)

PRAY TO END THE NIGHT!

- o IDEAS:
 - Leaders say a prayer of Thanksgiving and Blessing over the group!
 - Ask if any STUDENTS want to close the time in prayer?
 - Ask if anyone has a PRAYER REQUEST this week?
 - Hold Hands go around the circle to pray squeeze hand to pass.
 - Say the Lord's Prayer ("Our Father...")

CHECK OUT AT THE LEADER TABLE!

• Please take a moment to return your folder (and roster attendance) to the leader table. If you have feedback or notes, please leave those with us as well!!

THANK YOU!! HAVE A GREAT WEEK!