



**Bad Advice**  
**Wk #3 - Follow Your Heart**  
**November 21 & 22, 2020**

## LEADER PREP

### GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

The goal today is to help students realize that we aren't always the best judge of every situation. We should lean on God to direct us and by saying yes to Him continually, we find our hearts begin to become transformed by Him.

### SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 17:9  
Psalm 37:4  
Psalm 139:123-124

### THINK ABOUT THIS

Middle Schoolers are constantly presented with seemingly small opportunities to make the wrong decision. But even the smallest decisions help form the way they'll handle bigger ones later on in life. Right now they are building their foundation in the most critical ways.

*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. Let the students and the Holy Spirit guide the conversation, too.*



## CONVERSATION GUIDE

### MAIN POINT

**The only heart you can truly trust is a heart transformed by God.**

### GET THEM TALKING

1. If you could transform into any object at any time, which would you choose?
2. When you were younger, what did you think was the most important thing in the world?

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

3. Was there anything from today's lesson that stood out to you?

#### **READ Jeremiah 17:9 and answer the following questions:**

4. At first, "follow your heart" sounds like great advice, but why do you think it could actually be bad advice?
5. How does this verse make you feel, hearing that your heart can be deceitful?

#### **Read Psalm 37:4 and answer the following questions:**

6. What does it mean to delight in the Lord?
7. How can we delight in the Lord even when we don't feel like it?

### NEXT STEP

Read Psalm 139:123-124 together as a group, and then give everyone time to read it to themselves. After about a minute or so, share with your students that God will search your heart if you ask Him to but it may reveal some things in your heart you need cleaned out. Really invite your students to have a moment with God where they give Him permission to help heal their hearts.

### PRAYER GUIDE

*Search me, O God, and know my heart. test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you and lead me along the path of everlasting life.  
In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.*

Close your time together in prayer.

## SCRIPTURE

MS students are concrete thinkers, so opening your Bible to read the Scripture with them is a preferred visual cue.

### Jeremiah 17:9

“The human heart is the most deceitful of all things, and desperately wicked. Who really knows how bad it is?”

### Psalm 37:4

“Take delight in the Lord and He will give you your hearts desire. Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you and lead me along the path of everlasting life.”

### Psalm 139:123-124

“Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you and lead me along the path of everlasting life.”