

City Nights

Youth.

DATE

March 11th, 2026

SERIES

Identity: Week One

BEFORE GROUP

BOTTOM LINE:

We are not our achievements

SCRIPTURE:

- Colossians 3:23–24
- Galatians 2:20
- Psalm 139:13–14

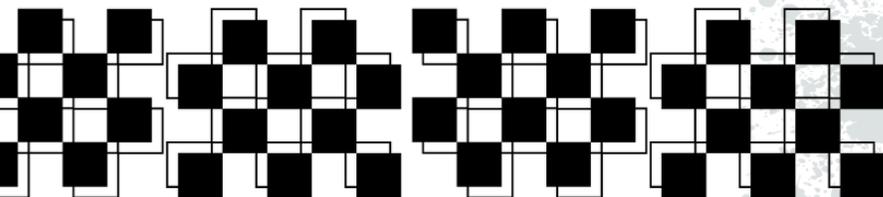
GOAL OF COMMUNITY GROUPS:

For students to know that their achievements can change, but their identity can not.

THINK ABOUT THIS:

As a leader, your goal this week is to help students understand that their value is not based on performance, success, or recognition. Teenagers are under constant pressure to succeed academically, socially, and in extracurricular activities, which can easily shape self-worth. Guide students through the idea that God values them first and foremost because they belong to Him, not because of what they accomplish. Use Scripture and examples from their everyday experiences to show that God's approval, not human praise, is the foundation of true identity.

Encourage practical reflection and application. Ask students to share areas where they feel pressure to perform and help them see how living from God's approval changes their perspective. Discuss ways they can remind themselves of God's love when they succeed or fail. Lead them to consider practical steps, such as journaling God's promises, praying daily, or celebrating others without comparison to live from identity rather than achievement. Emphasize that this shift brings freedom, confidence, and peace in their daily lives.



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. The goal is to get students verbally engaging, NOT to get through everything in the curriculum.

DURING COMMUNITY GROUP

HIGH/LOWS & OPENING

Begin with highs & lows from their week after they introduce each other. Really take this time to listen and ask questions to show you are interested in their lives.

ICEBREAKER:

What's something you think you could go to the Olympics for?

SCRIPTURE/VIDEO DISCUSSION:

(Some groups may watch the video to begin Group time and then break off into their smaller groups, and that's okay)

DISCUSS THIS

1. What pressures do you feel to "perform" or succeed in school, sports, or other areas of life?
2. How easy is it for you to tie your self-worth to your accomplishments? Why?
3. What does it mean that God values you before you ever accomplish anything?
4. Can you think of a time when you felt successful but still empty inside? What does that teach you?
5. How might focusing on achievements instead of God's approval lead to pride or fear?
6. What does it look like to live from your God-given identity rather than striving for recognition?
7. Who can you talk to this week when you feel like your achievements define you?
8. What is one practical way you can remind yourself of God's approval this week?

