

young men

LEADERS NOTES[®]

Ken Moser



young men + leader's notes: dear leader,

Welcome to Bible Studies for Young Men!

The goal of this study series is to equip the young men in your small group to live for Jesus. We are going to tackle some topics that will be very relevant to their lives. The goal is to get into the word of God and see what He says to young men today.

These leader's notes are designed to give you a brief yet clear help as you go through the questions.

Please note a couple of important things:

1. You may find that these studies have too much content! I wrote them this way because many of us have had the horrible experience of realizing that the study was moving too quickly and we were soon going to run out of time! With this in mind I decided that "more may be helpful" and erred on giving too many questions, Bible passages etc. There are usually three Bible passage per study- you will probably find this to be too much content. If you have time, you may want to quickly go over the study beforehand to decide if there is indeed, too much here for your group. You can simply trim the studies by dropping out a sharing question or one of the Bible passages.
2. With a bit of prior preparation, you may be able to stretch some of these studies over two weeks. If you think the topic is valuable, and don't wish to cut out any content, give it a try.
3. Some groups may find it helpful to do the studies in advance. In other words, if your group is comfortable with this, have them do it before they come to the weekly group (kind of like homework!) This will give them time to reflect on the study and be prepared.
4. Remember, it is ok to not know all the answers. Young people are good at asking tough questions. Your job is to help them get to know our Lord. God doesn't expect you to know everything! Tell them that "that is a great question, I'm not sure I know the answer to this. Can you give me a week to check it out?" You can then find someone who may know the answer and report back to the group.

I do hope you enjoy these studies and that they are a real blessing to your group!

Press on,

ken moser

P.S. I realize that some of you may have groups that are too young to drive. But I thought it was appropriate given the way that young men drive! Hopefully, it will be a suitable study either for now or the future. If your group is way too young, leave it on the back burner and revisit it when they are older.

young men * leader's notes: **Flee! Pursue!** ©

This study is designed to:

1. Help your group to see that they must flee evil and go after the things that honor Jesus.
2. Help them to clearly see the characteristics that Jesus wants in their lives (righteousness, faith, love, peace).
3. To help them to see that they must encourage each other to do this (Hebrews 3:12-13).

going deeper

A word to young men: 2 Timothy 2:22.

"Flee the evil desires of youth"

What does it mean to "flee the evil desires of youth"?

To turn you back on the sin that you want to commit. Especially those that you want to do when you are "young"

For example:

Speaking against the unpopular at school/ getting aggressive/ bad behavior at parties/ fighting with your parents etc.

What are the evil desires that many people your age struggle with?

lust/ greed/ anger/ jealousy/ insensitivity/ fighting etc.

Is it possible for you to win this struggle?

This is in part an opinion. However, we do have the holy spirit who will help us (Romans 8:9-11).

How do you rate when it comes to "fleeing evil"?

This is a personal opinion question.

What does it mean to pursue

a) **Righteousness?** Sinlessness/Innocence

b) **Faith?** Trust in Jesus

c) **Love?** Doing what is best for the other person

d) **Peace?** Harmony/good relationships/resolution of tension within relationships/absence of fighting

In the boxes below write out a definition of the word and an idea or two that would help you to pursue it successfully...

The definitions that go in the box are above.

“along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart”

Why is it so important to be with people who “call on the Lord out of a pure heart”?

To encourage each other in the faith. Other Christians will help you to stay focused on following Jesus.

getting active

let's pray

Pray for the points listed. Also ask the guys to share some other matters for prayer.

stay tuned

Next week we will look at dealing with the opposite sex!

Encourage the young people to use the personal bible reading plan including learning the memory verse. You may like to offer a prize next week to all who can recite the memory verse.

young men * leader's notes: girls©

This study is designed to:

1. Help your group have relationships with girls in a way that is helpful and brings glory to Jesus.
2. Help the group to treat females with godliness and purity (1 Timothy 5:1-2).
3. To think with purity about the opposite sex (Colossians 3: 5-6).
4. To learn to look at girls without lust (Job 31:1).
5. To get rid of impurity and improper conduct (Ephesians 5:3-7).

There is a lot of content in this study! You may wish to trim a passage or two (Job?) or see if you can do this study over two weeks.

See if anyone used the personal bible reading plan from last week. Ask them to share about what they read.

Check to see if anyone can recite the memory verse from last week (2 Timothy 2:22). You may like to have a prize for everyone who can say it.

going deeper

Treating girls the way God wants us to!

Ask a volunteer to read **1 Timothy 5:1-2 (esp. v. 2)**.

What do you think it means to "treat younger women as sisters, with absolute purity"? You treat them as you would treat a sister that you love- you don't see them as "sexual objects" or second rate. This must influence the way you think about them, the way you speak to them and the way you speak about them to your friends.

Lust must die! Ask a volunteer to read **Colossians 3: 5-6**.

(Lust= an intense craving or desire. It is often associated with sex.)

What practical things can you do to put lust "to death"? Avoid unhelpful tv shows/ internet sights and friends who think and speak about girls in an unhelpful way.

What do these verses tell us will happen to those who live according to their sinful desires? God will judge them in righteous anger (wrath)

Don't mess up with the girls in your youth group!

Ask a volunteer to read **Ephesians 5:3-7**.

Write down what we must not have in our youth group (you should find six things)

- 1) hint of sexual sin
- 2) any kind of impurity
- 3) greed
- 4) obscenity
- 5) foolish talk
- 6) coarse joking

What happens to those who are "disobedient" according to v.6?
God will judge them in righteous anger (wrath)

According to v. 5, what don't they have?

Any inheritance in the Kingdom of God- they won't go to heaven.

getting active

Helping each other

Ask the guys to share practical ways they can help each other with fleeing from lust and pursuing righteousness and what they may need to change.

let's pray

Pray for the points listed. Also ask the guys to share some other matters for prayer.

stay tuned

Next week we will look at honoring God and surfing the Internet!

Encourage the young people to use the personal bible reading plan including learning the memory verse. You may like to offer a prize next week to all who can recite the memory verse (Colossians 3:5-6).

young men * leader's notes: honoring jesus on the internet!©

This study is designed to:

1. Help the guys in your group to surf the net with purity.
2. Help them to see that God takes sin very seriously- and we should too (Matt 18:7-9).
3. Show the group that we must not live like those who don't follow Jesus (Eph 4:17-19).
4. Help the group to see the importance of thinking about good things (Phil 4:8).

As per usual, there is a lot of content in this study! You may need to trim the "Thinkspot".

See if anyone used the personal Bible reading from last week. Ask them to share about what they read.

Check to see if anyone can recite the memory verse from last week (Colossians 3:5-6). Some other ways to review the memory verse could be to play some memory verse games. (A helpful resource for some fun ideas is the chapter on memory verses from Creative Christian Ideas for Youth groups by Ken Moser). You may like to have a prize for everyone who can say it.

let's get started

Review

Can anyone remember Job 31:1 from our last study? (Look it up again if you can't remember.) What does this say to us about the temptations we face surfing the Internet? Train yourself to not look at females with lust!

going deeper

God takes sin very seriously! Ask a volunteer to read **Matthew 18:7-9**.

What clear instruction is Jesus giving here? God takes sin very seriously- and so should we!

How are we to respond to it? Ruthlessly. We should take action to get rid of sin in our life.

Why is Jesus so strong in his condemnation of sin? Because God hates it.

Ask a volunteer to read **Ephesians 4:17-19**. (FYI: The Bible sometimes calls non-Christians

“Gentiles”) According to this passage, why do non-Christians do evil?
They are “darkened in their understanding” / “separated from God” / have “hard hearts” / “have lost all sensitivity” / “given themselves over to sensuality”

How are we to be different? We must no longer live like them

How do we relate this teaching to the Internet? Avoid all websites that will cause us to sin

getting active

Helping each other

Ask the guys to answer the questions about helping ‘Greg’ and each other practically when it comes to honoring Jesus on the computer.

let's pray

Pray for the points listed. Also ask the guys to share some other matters for prayer.

stay tuned

Next week we will look at what the Bible has to say about the way we speak!

Encourage the young people to use the personal bible reading plan including learning the memory verse. You may like to offer a prize next week to all who can recite the memory verse (Philippians 4:8).

young men * leader's notes:

language

(joking, swearing, harsh words, etc.)©

This study is designed to:

1. Help your group speak in a way that is pure and honors the Lord.
2. Equip the group to avoid unhelpful, sinful speech (Colossians 3:8-10).
3. Equip the group to speak in a way that "builds up" (Ephesians 4:29).
4. Help the group stop using God's (and Jesus') name as a swear word (Thinkspots # 1 & 2)

There is a lot of content in this study! You may wish to trim a passage, the Thinkspots or see if you can do this study over two weeks.

See if anyone used the personal Bible reading from last week. Ask them to share about what they read.

Ask them if they have other tips from last week about how to honor God on the internet.

Check to see if anyone can recite the memory verse from last week (Philippians 4:8). You may like to have a prize for everyone who can say it.

going deeper

Be careful what comes out of your mouth! Ask a volunteer to read **Colossians 3:8-10** (You may want to read v.5-7 as well). What does it mean to "slander" someone? Why do you think God hates it? To say things that are hurtful or untrue about them.

Is it possible for us to get rid of "filthy language"? What do we need to do every day to remove it from the way we speak? Pray / actively try to not say bad things / surround ourselves with people who try not to swear as well

What about lying, is it possible not to lie? Yes- with hard work and prayer.

Why do you think God loves honesty? (If you want more on lying, turn to Eph. 4:25.) God loves good relationships. Lying ruins relationships.

We must use words that "build up". Ask a volunteer to read **Ephesians 4:29**. What do you think "unwholesome talk" means? Can you give examples? Talk that is unhelpful (i.E. Talk about the opposite sex, crude jokes, speech that tears people down etc.)

What type of speech are we to replace it with? Why? Talk that builds each other up.

think SPOT: 1 **The 3rd Commandment- God is not a swear word!** Ask a volunteer to read **Exodus 20:7**.

What does this commandment clearly tell us? Don't use god's name as a swear word. **Why do you think God hates having his name misused?** Because he is god- he is the ruler of all. Also, his name is holy and reflects who he is.

How can you avoid doing this? Prayer, discipline, having friends who don't speak this way

What can you do if all your friends continually break this commandment? Ask them to think about stopping!

think SPOT: 2 **The great name of Jesus Christ!** Ask a volunteer to read **Acts 4:8-12**.

What does this passage say about who Jesus Christ is? He was raised from the dead, the healer of the cripples man, the stone that is the "capstone" (this is the stone that is the most important in a building).

What does v. 12 tell us about his importance? He is the only way to find salvation.

In light of this, why is it wrong to use his name as a swear word? You are misusing the name of the lord who brings salvation.

How could we explain to our non-Christian friends that it is offensive to God and to us to hear His name used as a swear word? Imagine using the most powerful person's name in the universe as a swear word! It is a foolish thing to do.

getting active

Helping each other

Ask the guys to answer the questions about giving advice to 'Tim'.

Share practical ways the group can help each other to honor God in their speech.

let's pray Pray for the points listed. Also ask the guys to share some other matters for prayer.

stay tuned Next week we will look at honoring God by not fighting!

If the girls are old enough continue next week with the bonus study on driving. If not you may like to keep this study for a one-off study at a more suitable time (i.e., when most of them have driver's licences). Encourage the young people to use the personal bible reading plan including learning the memory verse. You may like to offer a prize next week to all who can recite the memory verse (1 John 3:1).

young men * leader's notes: being peaceful in an aggressive world! ©

This study is designed to:

1. Help your group be peaceful and avoid fights & quarrels.
2. Learn from the Book of Proverbs about how to be wise.
3. Be a peacemaker (Matthew 6:9).
4. See the importance of self control (Titus 2:6).
5. Help us to forgive each other, rid ourselves of unhelpful things that will bring fights, and, to stop complaining (Thinkspot).

It may come as no surprise but, there is a lot of content in this study! You may wish to trim a passage, or the Thinkspots. This may be an easy study to stretch over two weeks. (Week one = Story of Drew/Proverbs/one of the Thinkspot passages. Week two= A review/ Matthew 5:9/Titus 2:6/ The rest of the Thinkspots.)

going deeper

The Book of Proverbs

Have each member of the group look up one of these proverbs and read them to the group. Briefly discuss what each of them teaches us.

15:18 - A hot temper starts quarrels & disagreements. A patient person will bring calm

17:1 - It is even better to have poverty than riches with strife and fighting

17:14 - Stop a disagreement from growing into something bigger.

20:3 - Wise people avoid fighting, foolish people don't.

26:17 - Stay away from fights and disagreements that have nothing to do with you.

What things can you do to avoid quarrels? Give some practical examples.

Be slow to speak and quick to listen. Make sure you hear someone correctly before you disagree with them. Have friends who don't like to fight etc.

God loves those who make peace! Ask a volunteer to read **Matthew 5:9.**

What is the promise given here to someone who is a peacemaker? They will be called the sons (and daughters) of God.

God wants us to be self-controlled. Ask a volunteer to read **Titus 2:6.**

What do you think it means to be "self-controlled"? To control passions that can cause trouble (anger, lust etc.)

How does this relate to fighting and being aggressive? We must learn to control these.

How can we be more self-controlled with people and situations that make us angry? Ask God to help you to be patient. Have your friends pray for you. Learn to slow down before you respond to various situations. Try and work out what the best response is in each specific situation.

think SPOT:

Helpful hints from the word of God

The Bible is full of helpful hints to avoid strife and conflict. Ask a volunteer to **read Matthew 6:14-15**. What does this passage tell us to do? Forgive those who sin against us.

Ask a volunteer to **read Ephesians 4:31-32**. What does this passage tell us to do? Get rid of bitterness, rage, anger, fighting, slander, malice. Be kind and

getting active

Helping each other

Ask the guys to answer the questions about giving advice to 'Drew'.

Share practical ways the group can help each other to be peaceful and not fight.

let's pray

Pray for the points listed. Also ask the guys to share some other matters for prayer.

stay tuned

Next week we will look at honoring God by how we drive!

young men * leader's notes: driving! ©

This study is designed to:

1. Help your group drive in a way that honors God.
2. Show your group the importance of obeying the traffic laws (Romans 13:1-5 & Titus 3:1).
3. Show the group that they must honor Jesus by the way they drive (Colossians 3:17)

Well this study is a bit shorter than the previous ones! Hopefully you will be able to do the whole thing. If it is still too long, you may need to trim Titus 3:1 as it is similar to the passage before (Romans 13:1-5).

going deeper

The Bible doesn't say a lot about automobiles (they usually walked back then!). However, there are some guidelines that we can follow.

Obey the law: Part 1! Ask a volunteer to read **Romans 13:1-5**.

What does this say about obeying the law? We must submit ourselves to the governing authorities

Why is so tough to obey the law when we're driving? The law seems to restrict us. We feel that we can go faster and still be safe etc.

Obey the law: Part 2! Ask a volunteer to read **Titus 3:1**.

How does this relate to being in a car? We must obey the law.

How should we act when we drive together? We must encourage each other to drive in obedience to the law.

What happens if a passenger urges us to drive too fast or to drive recklessly?

Talk with them, warn them and, if you must, ask them to stop and get out of the car.

Glorify God in everything you do! Ask a volunteer to read **Colossians 3:17**.

What does this verse tell us about how we should live? We must bring glory to God in everything (doing it "in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ"). We must be thankful for the gift of being able to drive/travel in a car.

How can we relate this to being in a car? We must glorify God in all things- even the way we drive!

getting active

let's pray Pray for the points listed. Also ask the guys to share some other matters for prayer.

Other recommended resources for your youth ministry:

Small Group Bible Studies

Starting Out Volume #1

By Ken Moser

Starting Out Volume #2

By Ken Moser

Young Men

By Ken Moser

Studies 2 Go

By Julie Moser

More Studies 2 Go

By Julie Moser

RESOURCES FOR LEADERS

Programs 2 Go

By Ken Moser

Changing the World through Effective Youth Ministry

By Ken Moser

Creative Christian Ideas for Youth Groups

By Ken Moser

Youth Evangelism: Reaching Young People in a Way that Honours God

By Ken Moser



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