



September 24 Lesson Overview:

This Sunday we begin our series on dating and relationships, "I Think I like You...". In this series we will be looking to build a strong biblical foundation, equipping and preparing students to live in their current culture. This week our message "I'm not ready" will focus on the pressure students face to begin to date early. Students want to fit in and culture says dating is one way to achieve this goal. We will look at developing patience and not rushing into relationships. Rather finding our identity first in Christ and trusting Him with the rest.

Lesson Prep for Leaders:

Main Bible Passage: Psalms 119:9, Psalms 51:20, 1 Thessalonians 4:7-8

Questions for Leaders to ask yourself:

- What should student's mindsets be towards dating? Where should their identity be found?
- What can the negative outcomes be of having our identity found in a person or a relationship? How can you lead students to seeing their identity in Christ first?
- Dating is a real part of middle school culture, what truth do you want to leave your small group with to help them over the next few years in middle school and high school.



Icebreaker (5 Min): How is school going? What have you been learning?

Students Lead (5 Min): How has your perspective on relationships changed this month? Have you begun to see relationships differently at school?

Discussion Questions (10 Min):

- Do you feel pressured to date by friends? Why is it important to them that we date? How can you maintain healthy relationships with this pressure?
- What should your focus and priority always be? Where should we find our core identity first? How do we do this?
- Why are dating relationships hard? Why do you think they usually don't work out among our friends? How can we have healthy relationships?

Next Steps (2 Min): Leaders take a moment to share a story about healthy and unhealthy relationships in your life. What do you want to leave the students with from this month?

Prayer (2 Min): Close your time in Prayer.