



CONVERSATION GUIDE

This guide is a tool for you to use. While we believe it would be a mistake to not use these questions, take time in your preparation to consider what questions are "must ask" in your group and plan accordingly. You have permission to adjust where needed – just keep the small group goal listed in the margin in front of you.

LEADER PREP

The Comeback Week One

BOTTOM LINE

We are never too far gone for our comeback story to begin.

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To engage students with the ways God is working through their lives despite hardships and failures.

THINK ABOUT THIS

For many students this will be the first time they are gathering to talk about their faith in a LONG time. Be patient with them and acknowledge what you hope to get from your time in small group.

ONE MORE THING

There will be a temptation in week one to focus so much on connecting that we ignore the heart of the teaching. Consider that you have students who not only need to be known, but need to understand how God is working to meet them where they are tonight. You have such an important role in their lives!

STARTER STORIES

What are some things you love about the "new normal" we are living in? What are some things you struggle with or miss about the way things were?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some things you remember about Samson's life from the message? (Samson is found in Judges, chapters 13-16.)
2. Samson's failures were epic. (If you didn't list his failures while answering the first question, talk about some of them here.) What are some failures teenagers might experience that might cause struggles in their walk with Jesus?
3. What does it mean that *God is always greater than our failures*? How can grabbing hold of that change how we view our failures?
4. When you look at the end of Samson's life (Judges 16:23-31), what was it about his comeback that showed God never gave up on him?
5. Have you ever felt like God either gave up on you or might give up on you? Explain what you think or what you've experienced.
6. Why do you think we can sometimes be our own worst critic? In what way have you seen negative self-talk be hurtful in the lives of teenagers?
7. If failure doesn't cancel our calling, some might be tempted to think we should run toward failure or not care about making poor choices. What would you say to someone who told you that our choices really don't matter because God will work everything out?
8. God's passion is for us to know Him (John 17:3). He wants to walk with us in relationships day in and day out. With this in mind, how might He be calling you today to start your comeback story