



Proverbs 11:2

BIG IDEA

Jesus' kingdom is about serving humbly. If you want to be first you have to not value being first.

INTRO TO THE FAMILY GUIDE

Thank you for opening this guide. We are glad that you've decided to *continue the conversation*. Below you will find discussion questions geared toward adults and families. Whatever unit you are in, we would love for you to interact with each other and dig deeper into what we learned today. If you are alone, feel free to pick up the phone to call, text, or digitally interact with a friend on these questions.

The age-based questions for families cover 4 different stages of life—preschoolers, elementary students, middle schoolers, and teens. Parents, it's always awesome to model vulnerability with your children, so, even though each section does not specifically invite parents to share please do so.

SUMMARY FOR THIS WEEK

PRESCHOOL

1. What are some things that you are really good at? What are some things that you are not very good at? Isn't it good to know that God loves us when we are strong and that He also loves us just as much when we are weak.
2. Jesus told us that "the first shall be last and the last shall be first." How can you put others first and yourself last this week? Ask your parents for ideas.

ELEMENTARY

1. What do you like about being the best at something? (Fastest, smartest, strongest) What is it like to be the most weak at something? (youngest, smallest, slowest?) Isn't it good to know that God loves us when we are strong and that He also loves us just as much when we are weak.
2. Jesus told us that "the first shall be last and the last shall be first." How can you put others first and yourself last this week? Ask your parents for ideas.
3. Why do you think it is hard to put yourself last? What do you fear might happen if you put yourself last?

MIDDLE SCHOOL

1. What do you like about being the best at something? (Fastest, smartest, strongest) How does it feel to be the most weak at something? (youngest, smallest, slowest?) What do you think God feels about us when we are strong or when we are weak?
2. Jesus told us that "the first shall be last and the last shall be first." What does that look like? How can you put yourself last?
3. What do you fear when you put yourself last? Being wrong, being weak, being a failure, being small? Look back at the lists from the sermon under each of these. Which ones describe you?

HIGH SCHOOL

1. Which of the 4 fears did you resonate with most? Being wrong, being weak, being a failure, being small? Look back at the lists from the sermon under each of these. Which ones describe you?
2. Share an example of when your pride was exposed and you felt one of these fears.
3. Jesus told us that "the first shall be last and the last shall be first." How can you face the fears and choose to put yourself last?

Adults

1. What is one way you can face your prideful fears and seek the flourishing of others this week?
2. Beneath our pride is a fear of something!! Ask yourself this question: "In the midst of your pride exposed, what are you afraid of losing right now? Below are the 4 categories for reflection: the 4 fears of pride:
Being wrong. This can be seen as defensive, critical, cautious so we won't be exposed. I can try to be unique so you can't compare me to others. I will over

prepare so I won't be exposed. Or, I can be domineering: in peoples faces, loud. WE can be self-deprecating--we demean ourselves so others won't expect much from us. We can be helpless/reserved: if the teacher asks a question I never raise my hand.

Being seen as weak. To prevent being seen as week we can turn to anger--it keeps people off balance and it makes us look strong, Argumentative--we don't want to lose an argument because then we will look weak.

Obsessive--working out, eating habits, working...all in order not to be weak. We become experts on what we are experts on,

Grouchiness--it makes people stay away from us. Rescuing--I will help you in your weakness so I don't look weak. And I won't let you help me because I am too proud.

Silence--this keeps us from appearing weak. Aloof --carry ourselves in public where people won't sense warmth from us.

Seductive--dress and talk seductively.

Being a failure: defensive, sneaky, blame shift, dishonest, explaining with long explanations why we were not a failure, half truths.

Being small--the idea of being overlooked, to be passed by. Gossip--we tear people down to our size or even less than us. Complaining--we feel powerless so we complain.

Social media: use it to make us sound larger. Live vicariously through our kids or athletes. We are attempting to be bigger than we are. Exaggeration: stories have to be bigger so you won't forget me. Competitiveness: is pride in disguise.

Hospitality: to make ourselves prominent.