

# CONVERSATION GUIDE

## Middle-High School

DATE: 1/17/21

LESSON: *Dealing With Your Past*

### INTRO

This conversation guide exists to help parents interact with their middle and high school students. Our goal in having middle and high school students attend gatherings (or worship at home) with their parents is to help them transition toward being adults who are fully functioning members of the church. But most middle and high school students still need some translation and help connecting what they're learning to their lives. We want our sermons to be accessible, but they aren't specifically targeted toward the transitional teenage years.

- **Family Chart:** If you didn't use the Student Conversation Guide last week, print and fill out your family chart on the next page using the following instructions:
  - 1.) Put in people's names for your parents, siblings and grand- or great-grandparents you know.
  - 2.) Add other significant people in your village (aunts/uncles, LG, SG leaders, friends, etc.)
  - 3.) Draw blue lines where God has blessed you with love, wisdom and grace through these people.
  - 4.) Draw red lines where you and your family have experienced sin and brokenness. (*Let students start, help them with some examples if they get stuck.*)
  
- **Step 1: Know Your Wounds and Deficits.**

**Read 1 Peter 1:18-19.** Where do you see "futile ways of life" (i.e. wounds, deficits, weaknesses) in your family tree? (areas of red that show up in multiple places from one generation to the next)

  - Where are you the most tempted to deny/downplay or blame others for the red in your chart? (*Parents go first!*)
  
- **Step 2: Bring Your Wounds and Deficits to Jesus.**

**Read 1 John 1:5-6.** What are you most tempted to try to hide from Jesus? Are there any parts of your life or family tree that you are hesitant to talk to Jesus about? If so, why?
  
- **Step 3: Bring Your Wounds and Deficits to Church Family.**

**Read 1 John 1:7.** Why does Jesus say that walking in the light gives us fellowship with one another?

  - Are there any things in your life that you know about, you've talked to Jesus about it ... but you still don't want to talk to church family about? If so, why not?
  
- **Step 4: Find Gospel Healing for Your Wounds.**

**Read Isaiah 53:5.** How do Jesus' wounds heal ours? What are some truths from scripture that speak directly into your particular wounds and deficits?
  
- **Step 5: Go to the Church Family You've Got and Learn How to Fill Up Your Deficits.**

How can you allow other people to speak into your wounds and deficits?
  
- **Step 6: Help Others Deal With Their Wounds.**

**2 Corinthians 1:3-4.** List out specific ways God has comforted you in your life. Thank Him for it!

Is there anyone in your life right now who needs the same comfort from God that you've received?  
What are practical ways you can share God's love and comfort with them this week?

# YOUR FAMILY CHART:



