

WIN THE DAY

WEEK #3

Middle School

Connect Group Leader Sheet

How to Use Your Skills

NOTE: Remember, start the group with something fun and encourage them to get to know each other. Maybe play a quick trivia game (just search for free party game apps for some options). This helps them be prepared to share in group too. Also, always encourage answers from the students. If an answer seems incorrect, instead of just saying it's wrong, encourage them to look at it from a different perspective to find the right answer.

Share (Optional):

Each week we invite one or two people to briefly share their life stories, explaining what has brought them to where they are today. Who would like to share today?

Connect:

1. What is one skill you wish you had? How would you use it?
2. Who is someone you know of who is highly skilled?
3. What do you think is the difference between a talent and a skill? (Talent is something born with, Skill is learned)

Grow:

Watch Video Clip #1 (approx. 7 min with intro) What are your thoughts about this video?

- 1) If you died tomorrow, what do you think people would say at your funeral?
- 2) How do you want to be remembered in life?

SAY: Winners Use Their Skills. They understand our legacy is not about how we start but how we finish. They also understand our legacy is not about what we have but what we **do** with what we have.

- 3) What do you currently own that could be used to bless other people?
- 4) Do you know anyone who has what we might consider a little, yet gives a lot? Share.
- 5) Do you know anyone who has what we might consider a lot and gives a little? Share.
- 6) What would you consider some of your top skills? How do you know these are top skills?
- 7) Off the top of your head, what kind of skills do you think Jesus demonstrated while on earth?

Read Mark 6:1-3.

Watch Video Clip #2 (approx. 5 min) What stood out to you in this clip? Explain.

SAY: Jesus was remembered mostly for what He did in the last three years of His life. Not much is documented about Him prior to age thirty. Jesus was remembered for His calling not His career. We can also assume God will use our career to prepare us for our calling.

- 8) Do you agree with this assumption? Why?
- 9) Have you ever wish you had more opportunities to be used by God? Explain.
- 10) Have you ever felt limited by the way someone labeled you or your abilities? Explain.
- 11) How do you think God helped prepare Jesus for ministry while he was growing up? How might Jesus' carpentry skills have been used as ministry skills later in life?
- 12) How might God be preparing skills within you now to be used for a greater purpose later?
- 13) When your skill combines with God's Spirit there is no limit. How would you explain this to someone who has never read the Bible?

Read Romans 5:1-8 & Romans 6:3-10, 23.

Observe and share what Jesus was able to accomplish by allowing the Spirit of God to combine with His human skills.

Move: Discuss and decide one way you will use a skill you have to build God's Kingdom this week. Share how you will know you are building God's Kingdom with your skill and not your own.

Think: How might your skills team up well and complement the skills of others within the Church?

Pray: Write down prayer requests and answered prayers.

If you have time: [Watch Video Clip #3 \(approx. 4 min\)](#)

Mark 6:1-3

Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples.² When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed.

“Where did this man get these things?” they asked. “What’s this wisdom that has been given him? What are these remarkable miracles he is performing?”³ Isn’t this the carpenter? Isn’t this Mary’s son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren’t his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him.

Romans 5:1-8

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,² through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.³ Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance;⁴ perseverance, character; and character, hope.⁵ And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

⁶You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.⁷ Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die.⁸ But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 6:3-10, 23

³Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?⁴ We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his.⁶ For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—⁷because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

⁸Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.⁹ For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him.¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

²³For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.