

# **GOAL OF TONIGHT**

Help students see how God's story intersects with their story and why that matters in their day-to-day life.

### WELCOME & ICE BREAKER

Hey friends - way to go! You are surviving winter in MN! It's a long one, but at least we get to be together on Wednesday nights. To stay warm, let's quickly share around the circle our favorite WARM food or drink.

#### **BIBLE VERSES**

Exodus 20:12

# QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS THE BIBLE VERSES

Tonight we are kicking of a new series here in small group that is all about relationships. For the next 3 weeks we'll be figuring out how to honor God in our relationships with our parents, the opposite gender and our friends. Should be fun! We'll start tonight by discussing our relationship with our parents.

Ask these questions:

1. Think about your relationship with your parents right now. Are you happy with it, or could it get better? All at once, have everyone either give a thumbs up or a thumbs down based on how it's going with their parents.

2. Can you think of something you do with your parents that makes you feel closer to them? A time when you get along well with them? It could be an activity you do together, a game you play, a meal you like to share...

3. What kind of relationship do you think God wants you to have with your parents? Why?

Read together Exodus 20:12.

Leaders- explain that this verse falls into the list of the Ten Commandments. Point out that this commandment about honoring our parents is the only one that comes with a promise attached.

- 1. What do you think it MEANS to honor your parents?
- 2. Why would God attach a promise like this to this commandment? What makes honoring your parents THAT important?
- 3. Are there ways you could honor your parents better? Come up with a list as a group.

### LEADER INSIGHT

Leaders- families are complicated. As you discuss parents tonight, students may have step-parents, former step-parents, guardians, grandparents that are like their parent, etc. Be sensitive and inclusive in your language. Basically, we want to help them strengthen their relationships with the adults who act in that parenting role.

### APPLICATION SUGGESTIONS

Make a list of the ways the students can honor their parents well and pray about it. Tell them you are going to ask next Wednesday how it went!