

## 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 hey! Great to be hanging out together tonight. Tonight we are going to start with a special activity. Everyone will trace their hand on a piece of paper and write their name at the top. Then we will tape the piece of paper to our back, and go around writing things we like or appreciate about each other on our hand prints. At the end, you can look at your hand print and see the great things everyone wrote about you!

#### **BIBLE VERSES**

Proverbs 28:7

# QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS THE BIBLE VERSES

Tonight we are in the 3rd week of a series here in small group that is all about relationships. Last week we talked about our relationships with the opposite gender and TONIGHT we are going to talk about friendship. Let's get going.

Ask these questions:

- 1. How did it feel for you to write nice things about others on their backs?
- 2. What did you think when you read the things others wrote on your hand print?
- 3. How can encouraging each other like this be good for friendships?

The book of Proverbs has some great insight into the kind of friends we should choose and the kind of friends we should be. There is one verse, though, that really stands out for students in middle school who are choosing their friend groups. Read this together and then answer some questions:

Read Proverbs 28:7

- 1. Why do you think King Solomon (the author of the book of Proverbs) would write this verse?
- 2. Do you think he's right?
- 3. What would a "wild" friend be like? In other words, how can you identify a wild friend so you can stay away from them?
- 4. What characteristics SHOULD you be looking for in a friend?

### LEADER INSIGHT

Leaders- this opening activity might take a while tonight, but that's ok! We want students to grow in their friendships with each other and it's good to take a night to focus on that. Guys- don't be afraid of this activity. We find that boys benefit just as much, if not more than girls from this kind of affirmation- so go all in and see how they react!

### APPLICATION SUGGESTIONS

If you have time, have students come up with a list of ways they can build on or cultivate the good friendships they currently have (especially those at GZ!).