



Cheat Codes / Week 2

BEFORE GROUP

BOTTOM LINE

Your character matters.

SCRIPTURE

Proverbs 4:25-27 NLT

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To help students understand what good character is and why it's valuable to their lives, and to encourage them to see how the choices they're making now can impact their character as they grow.

THINK ABOUT THIS

This week, we're talking about how wisdom helps us build character. Though they may be familiar with the word, be sure to define what you mean by character as you begin the conversation. Character is who we are, even when no one is watching. It's the way we choose

to live and treat others. And good character comes with the help of God's wisdom in our lives! As you talk this week, focus the conversation around what good, strong character looks like instead of talking about what makes bad character. You don't want to inadvertently shame or call out a student who may not be applying wisdom to their own character just yet! So, focus on the good to encourage them in who they can become as they walk with Jesus. The best example for good character? Jesus Himself! So, point your group to the character of Jesus as a model for them to look to. It's not so much about changing their behaviors to try to become someone different. Instead, it's about letting the wisdom of the Holy Spirit into their hearts to make them more like Jesus.

This guide is a suggestion, not a formula. Adjust the questions and activities as needed, and don't feel like you need to do, or ask, everything you see here.

DURING GROUP

ICE BREAKER

If you had to list three qualities about yourself on your social media bio, what would they be?

DISCUSS THIS

1. In your own words, how would you explain "character"?
2. How does someone build good character? Treat creation like God created it?

DO THIS (EXPERIENCE) 1

Find a video clip from a show or movie you know your students are watching. Watch it together and ask: "Where did someone show good character?" (For a low-tech option, scatter the provided scenario cards in the middle of your group and ask your students to talk about how they'd respond with character/wisdom in each situation.)

DISCUSS THIS (continued)

3. Why do you think character matters?
4. How are wisdom and character connected?
5. How might the choices you make impact your character?
6. What's one thing you can do today to build good character?

Your friend didn't study for the test and wants to **copy off of you** during the exam.

You're with your friends at a store and they're going to take something. They ask you to **slip something into your bag**.

Your parents have a rule that you can't have your phone in your room at night, but they **forgot to take it from you** before they went to bed.

You're staying at a friend's house, and they're watching a movie you **aren't allowed to watch** or playing a game you **aren't allowed to play**.