

# ALWC KIDZ QUEST MIDDLE SCHOOL LEADER GUIDE

February 23, 2025



## BOTTOM LINE

Be growing, be humble.

## SCRIPTURE

*Matthew 4:1-4 NLT*

*Matthew 4:11 NLT*

## GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To encourage students to see the value in letting real growth happen over time and to encourage them to let humility work in them to help them pursue that growth.

## THINK ABOUT THIS

As you talk about growth this week, start by making sure it's concrete to your students. We're not talking about physical growth, as in things like height, weight, muscle, and the like. We're talking about personal, spiritual growth—the kind that happens on the inside. For adults, this idea of “personal growth” may be familiar, but for a middle schooler, this might be a new concept. In this phase, it's easy for them to see life as something that happens to them. They have little control and little freedom right now, and that makes believing they can choose to grow in an area of their life a challenge. They also are still developing self-awareness in this phase. So, even if they recognize they have the freedom to pursue growth, they may not be able to identify where they want or need to grow. Avoid the temptation to answer these questions or define these ideas for them as you lead. Instead, create a space that will help them take the first steps toward discovering those things for themselves. After all, that's part of growth, too!

*This guide is a suggestion, not a formula. Adjust the content as needed, and don't feel like you need to complete everything listed.*

# MIDDLE SCHOOL SMALL GROUP

February 23, 2025

1

15mins

## **Supplies:**

- Bibles
- Series Definition Board
- Series Definition Board

## DISCUSSION

- Pick a few questions to answer from the list. Be sure to answer the “Open the Bible” questions with your students.
- Have a student put this week’s series definition (Growth) on your group’s Definition Board and review.

1. What’s one way you want to grow in school?
2. What’s one way you want to grow in your relationships?
3. What’s one way you want to grow in your talents/extracurriculars?
4. What’s one way you want to grow in your relationship with God?
5. If that kind of growth takes time, are you usually willing to stick with it? Why or why not?
6. On a scale from “I got this,” to “I can’t do it,” how good are you at waiting for something?
7. How do you think humility can help us grow?

OPEN THE BIBLE: Read Matthew 4:1-4 & Matthew 4:11 NIV.

8. Jesus was in the wilderness for 40 days, and it wasn't easy.
  1. How do you think Jesus' time of fasting helped Him grow spiritually, even though it was challenging?
  2. What can you learn from Jesus’ response to temptation about waiting on growth to happen?
9. Jesus had to wait 40 days in the wilderness before He was tempted by the devil.
  1. How do you think He was able to wait patiently for God’s timing?
  2. What can we learn from Jesus' example when we need to wait for something?
10. What can we learn from Jesus' patience in waiting on God's will instead of taking the easy way out?
  1. How can this apply to our own growth—whether it’s physical, emotional, or spiritual? (Leaders give an age appropriate example)

## REFLECT

11. This week, what’s one way you can:
  1. Pursue growth?
  2. Ask for help when growth takes time?

## **Supplies:**

- Series Definitions
- Bible
- Crayons/Markers
- Coloring Page
- Memory Verse Match



# MIDDLE SCHOOL SMALL GROUP

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2

15mins

## EXPERIENCE

Read the scenario below to your Group. Ask them to discuss how they can grow in that situation, as well as demonstrate a balance of humility and confidence.

### Supplies:

- Series
- Definition
- Board

### **Scenarios:**

1. Your friend has been telling everyone how good they are at a game that you love to play. It is starting to make you feel that you aren't as good. What is one way you can stay humble in this situation? (review the definition of HUMILITY if needed)
2. You have to sit with a new group of friends in your class. You might be feeling nervous. How can you be brave? (review the definition of BRAVE if needed)
3. Your friend just came to lunch showing everyone their new phone. You wanted a new phone, too! How can you celebrate what you do have?
4. Your friends pressure you to do something you're uncomfortable with. You don't want to lose their friendship but also don't want to do something wrong. How do you handle the pressure confidently?
5. In class, you get called on and don't know the answer. Someone laughs, and you feel embarrassed. How can you stay confident and handle the situation with humility?
6. You overhear a friend talking about you negatively. You feel betrayed but don't want to react in anger. How can you address the situation without making it worse?

### Supplies:





# Humility

**Being respectful towards yourself and not thinking you are better than others**

## CONFIDENCE

being certain of  
yourself or  
something else

## PRIDE

having self  
respect,  
personal worth

## BALANCED

staying steady  
and strong in  
the center

## BRAVE

staying strong  
in what you  
personally  
believe in

## COMPARISON

how things are  
the same or  
different

## GROWTH

a process of  
learning a new  
skill to make a  
positive change  
in your life