RETHINKING YOUR MOTIVES, RELATIONSHIPS, AND USE OF TIME
Lesson 2: Leader Guide

LEADER PREPARATION

LESSON OVERVIEW: Students will learn how to rethink their motives, relationships, and use of time, all of which affect their day-to-day living and remarkable life mission.

LESSON OBJECTIVES:
1. **WHAT**: Students will understand that God cares deeply about how their motives, relationships, and use of time are enhancing or sabotaging their distinctive life purpose.
2. **WHY**: If you rethink your motives, relationships, and use of time, you're better prepared to answer God's call on your life.
3. **HOW**: After learning how to rethink their motives, relationships, and use of time, students will work with their Conversation Partner to review those aspects of their lives and make solid choices that affect the legacy they're meant to leave.

MEMORY VERSE: *People may be pure in their own eyes, but the Lord examines their motives* (Proverbs 16:2 NLT).

LEADER-FACILITATOR PREP:
- [Optional Icebreaker] Familiarize yourself with the True/False Quiz about Edison, Beethoven, and Walt Disney—and the lesson segue.
- Think about your own pet peeves and choose several to share with the group. [See Introductory Remarks for examples.]

BEFORE LESSON: Text Messages for Students [optional]
Customize one or both of these text messages to fit your needs:
- Come to small group and learn why your motives, relationships, and time matter to God.
• You know how your motives, relationships, and time affect God’s plan for you? Let’s talk about it.

AFTER LESSON: E-mail for Parent/Other Adult Mentor [optional]
Customize this e-mail to fit your needs:

Dear _______________,

Just writing to let you know that in our latest lesson in The Way I’m Wired: Discovering Who God Made ME to Be, our students took a hard look at the concept Rethinking Your Motives, Relationships, and Use of Time, with a special emphasis on how those life choices impact God’s plan for their life.

Major Teaching Point:
If I rethink my motives, relationships, and use of time, I’m better prepared to answer God’s call on my life.

The students did several exercises to personalize these three concepts:
• God abhors wrong motives, wrong relationships, and wrong use of time.
• Right motives, right relationships, and right use of time always give glory to God.
• Your motives, relationships, and use of time impact the life mission for which you’ve been wired.

Our Memory Verse: People may be pure in their own eyes, but the Lord examines their motives (Proverbs 16:2 NLT).

As the opportunity arises, talk with your teenager about our lesson. Here are some questions to help fuel your conversation:
• Motives: In what way does one of your motives surprise you?
• Relationships: Which negative relationship might you want to rethink because it’s stunting the character formation you need to complete your life mission?
• Use of Time: If you had to grab 12 minutes per day from assorted areas of your life to work on your life mission, from which areas would you steal those precious minutes? (You can’t take the minutes from chores, school/homework, or church time!)

Prayerfully consider having a conversation with your teenager about your own checkup regarding your motives, relationships, and use of time. (If you’re using the parent’s companion book, How Your Teenager Is Wired: Discovering Who God Made Your Teenager to Be, refer to Chapter 6.)

Thanks for your prayers for all our teenagers. Have a blessed day!
OPTIONAL ICEBREAKER: 5 MIN
Welcome your students and open in prayer. Then, SAY SOMETHING LIKE: Let’s take a fun True/False Quiz right now. True or false...
1. One of Thomas Edison’s teachers told him he was too stupid to learn anything. [True]
2. Beethoven’s music teacher once said of him that his future as a composer was hopeless. [True]
3. A newspaper editor fired Walt Disney because he had no good ideas. [True]

Surely, their teachers and supervisors later had to rethink their negative comments. Regarding this lesson, let’s look at how God is challenging you to rethink the way you see yourself and your actions.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS: 5 MIN
SAY SOMETHING LIKE: Many of us have pet peeves—things that bug us or drive us crazy. Like a fingernail being dragged across a chalkboard. Like when your parent tries to act really cool/hip around your friends. What peeves me is… [when I get put on hold by a telephone Help Desk for 10 minutes; when the dog chews up another one of my shoes].

ASK:
- What’s your pet peeve? [little brother/sister following me around; dirty dishes in the sink because of a slacker; extra homework on weekends]
- What’s a pet peeve friends or family members might have about you? [you leave your clothes on the floor; you belch]

LESSON FOCUS: 5 MIN
SAY SOMETHING LIKE: This lesson focuses on three things that must surely be God’s pet peeves: wrong motives (or reasons for doing or not doing something), wrong relationships, and wrong use of our time. If you rethink your motives, relationships, and use of time, you’re better prepared to answer God’s call on your life. [Leader: If you worked through the materials yourself with your own adult Conversation Partner, share a few appropriate highlights.]

READ PROVERBS 16:2: People may be pure in their own eyes, but the Lord examines their motives.

ASK:
- Which of these three poor motives (reasons for doing or not doing something) do you dislike the most when you see it in people: (1) When they are trying to impress, (2) When they are trying to manipulate, or (3) When they are trying to get revenge? Why do you dislike that one the most?
DVD LESSON: 10 MIN

**SAY SOMETHING LIKE:** Let’s watch the DVD lesson to learn more about how to rethink our motives, relationships, and use of time. Open your Life Map to the note-taking section for this lesson.

Start the DVD for Lesson 2 and pray silently as the material is presented. Pray for your teenagers, by name, that they’ll learn all they need to know about their motives, relationships, and use of time—and that they’ll have a life-changing experience in their Conversation Partner time. Stop DVD.

DVD REVIEW: 5 MIN

**SAY SOMETHING LIKE:** As the video explained, we all need to rethink our motives, relationships, and use of time.

- **“WHY” QUESTION...about God’s perspective:** Why does God want you to rethink those three aspects of your life?
- **“HOW” QUESTION...about the benefit for teenagers:** How does rethinking your motives, relationships, and use of time bring you joy or cause you to change?

CONVERSATION PARTNER TIME: 40-45 MIN

**SAY SOMETHING LIKE:** In just a moment, it’ll be time to switch gears and go into your Conversation Partner time. We on the leadership team will be praying for your conversation—and we’ll also be coming around to observe the process. We expect you to focus intently on your discussion about your motives, relationships, and use of time, so please don’t feel like you need to include us in your conversation. Just do your thing and do it well.

If you finish before the 40 minutes is up, please stay with your Conversation Partner and help each other memorize the Scripture verse; you also can focus on the suggested homework at the end of your Life Map. We’ll make an announcement when you have 5 minutes left to wrap up. Pair up with your assigned Conversation Partner now and head to a quiet place.

**Pray silently:** As you walk around, ask God to bless each teenager, by name, with abundant grace. (Ask for yourself, too!)

CONCLUDING REMARKS: 5 MIN

Bring the group back together and **ASK:**

- **Starting now, how will you insight about your motives, relationships, and use of time affect your day-to-day living and (if you have a glimpse of it already) your unique life mission?**

Give a quick summary or personal challenge. Then, **SAY SOMETHING LIKE:** From our lesson, you can see the importance of being clear about your motives, relationships, and use of time.
Jesus modeled an authentic life, one without pretense and one that showed the importance of relationships and use of time. God wants us to lead the same kind of life.

Just a reminder to take a look at the Homework Suggestion and also to memorize the Scripture verse—both of which can be found in your Life Map.

Close with a brief prayer.