



FOCUSED LIVING IN CHRIST

Facilitator Guide – Lesson Three

REJOICE Each of us is outfitted and uniquely equipped by Christ for service to Christ.

Starting the Discussion

Use one (or both) of the following questions to begin the discussion.

- Share one strength and one weakness that you have.
- What is something unique about you, your family, or where you live?

Watch the “Rejoice Video”

Before viewing, encourage the youth to listen for takeaways from the video which they might be willing to share with the group. After viewing, ask the youth to share some of their takeaways. Their comments might lead naturally into some of discussion thoughts below.

Connecting & Applying Colossians 3:12-14

- God has prepared me for a rich and meaningful life lived to his glory.
 - God gives me a beautiful outfit to wear as only I uniquely can—in the specific places I live, with the specific family I have, among the specific people I encounter, and with the specific strengths and gifts I have. Knowing this gives me . . .
 - God uses my weaknesses to . . .
 - Even “little things” have big impact in God’s eyes. Such as . . .

Thoughts for the leader – God’s work in and through us gives us joy! He even uses our weaknesses to be blessings to us and others. They teach us to rely on him. He teaches us to use them for him. 2 Corinthians 12:7-10 is a good section to consider with weaknesses. As for little things, this statement has youth thinking about how God notices and cares about everything they do from a heart of faith—a kind greeting, a smile, giving a cup of cold water to someone, serving, listening, etc. Invigorate the youth to serve the Lord everywhere and every day!

- The Bible is filled with many examples of people who thought they were unprepared for a challenge or task, and yet God equipped them for it and helped them through it. Can you think of one?

Thoughts for the leader – You can share Moses’ concerns and God’s response in Exodus 3:10-15, 4:1-3, 10-15; Elijah’s struggle and God’s response in 1 Kings 19:1-18; Joseph’s difficulties and God’s presence in Gen

39ff “The Lord was with Joseph . . .”; Daniel’s faith in Babylon (Daniel 6). We learn that we are “outfitted” by God, prepared by God, and equipped by God in service to God.

- What are some ways you are developing your gifts and abilities right now? How can you help others develop their gifts and abilities?

Thoughts for the leader – This question gives the opportunity to encourage youth to “pour themselves” diligently and wholeheartedly into their vocations, their studies, their lives as students, friends, classmates and fellow Christians.

Close with Prayer

The leader may include specific youth prayer requests in the prayer.