

YOUTH BIBLE STUDY *(9th-12th grade)*

AGE RANGE: 9th-12th grade

INTENTION: To explore the 2020 scripture and theme of Week of Compassion in the context of our own and other cultures

MATERIALS: Bibles

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 3:5-9 NIV

DISCUSSION

In our scripture for today, Paul is talking with people who are upset because Apollos is teaching. There are two opposing groups, those who support Apollos and those who think he should not be teaching. Paul tells them that both he and Apollos have the same goal. Paul says that he planted the seeds of faith and knowledge and Apollos watered them. Apollos is just building on what Paul was doing. Paul continues by saying that we all have different assignments and all of them are important. He also says that God is the one who is responsible for the growth, even though he and Apollos planted and watered.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Have you ever experienced having different leaders say different things?
- How can it be difficult to follow more than one leader?
- Could there be blessings in having different beliefs and backgrounds within a group that's working together? What might those blessings be?
- How can people who have different beliefs or different gifts work together for a common goal? Can you think of an example?

"Investing in Futures..." That is the theme of this year's Special Offering for Week of Compassion. One of the highlighted projects is New Life Center in Thailand, which provides education, medical care, food and safe shelter for teenage girls who are survivors of--or at risk for--human trafficking. Projects like this help young people around the world overcome difficult circumstances, empowering them to create a new future for themselves and others.

AS YOU THINK ABOUT YOUR FUTURE:

- What are some ways that you are investing in your future?
- What are some ways that your parents or grandparents are investing in your future?
- Are there teachers or others who have invested in your future? Who has invested in you?
- How might your future be the same and different from other youth's futures? Why?
- What is God's role in our future?

For more background and additional resources, the "Theme Introduction" and "Reflection for Preaching and Teaching" are both available in the Planning and Resource Guide (pages 6 and 8).