PREPARE MODULE #1 - *When YOU Were A Student*

LEADER :: JHM & HSM | EASTSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

COMPETENCY: Proficiency in the unique developmental phase of teenagers and the importance of empathizing with their experiences for the purpose of building meaningful connections and effectively relating to them.

OBJECTIVE: Enhance the skill of recognizing and understanding teenagers, while also recalling personal experiences, to build stronger connections with them.

ASSIGNMENTS:

- *Assignment 1 // Complete the "Go Back In Time" worksheet. Print a copy to bring with you and discuss*
- *Assignment 2 // Read the article and answer the questions*
- *Assignment 3 // Read Hebrews 4:15-16 and answer the corresponding questions*

ASSIGNMENT 1

Complete the **"Go Back In Time"** worksheet. Print a copy to bring with you and discuss.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeQV7H-6jc-OAg29SNY5AEAJzoEMW7Awsge8_xvcE-eOX9D-Q/viewform

ASSIGNMENT 2

Read the article entitled **"What you need to know about today's teenagers"** and answer the following questions.

https://fulleryouthinstitute.org/blog/what-you-need-to-know-about-teenagers

QUESTIONS:

1. *What are some of the pressures and challenges faced by teenagers today that you didn't face at that age?*

2. *How can you ensure that you're truly listening to teenagers, rather than just hearing them?*

3. *Are there any unconscious biases that might hinder your ability to see teenagers for who they truly are?*

4. *How can/do you create environments where teenagers feel safe to explore faith and formulate their identity in Christ?*

5. *What strategies can you utilize to break through barriers that prevent meaningful connections with teenagers?*

6. *How can/do you encourage teenagers to find their sense of identity, belonging, and purpose in Jesus?*

ASSIGNMENT 3

Read Hebrews 4:15-16 and answer the corresponding questions.

Hebrews 4:15-16 NLT

15 This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin. 16 So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.

Questions:

1. *How does the fact that Jesus faced similar tests and temptations as teenagers, shape our empathy towards teenagers who are also navigating their own trials and challenges?*

2. *In what ways can we draw parallels between the trials Jesus endured and the experiences that teenagers encounter during their formative years?*

3. *Who is someone you looked up to (as a mentor) as a teenager? What specifically did they do that made you feel understood and supported?*

4. *What actions could/do you take to ensure your small group is a safe place for students to express their doubts, fears, and questions about faith and life?*

5. *How can/do you lead by example in your own spiritual journey to help students deepen their own relationship with God?*

What are at least two LEADERSHIP TAKEAWAYS from this module? Be prepared to discuss with your group.

1.

2.