



PASSAGE CONVERSATIONS: for boys ages 12+

Use this "God's design" as the foundation for your talk on each of the 5 topics found in the passage conversations guide for boys.

GOD'S DESIGN: for our character

God created us to reflect His nature in this world He created. To be human is to grow, to mature, to adapt over time. God calls us His children when we belong to Him, but He never intended for us to stay acting like kids forever.

In a world full of sin, living a life of godly character can feel a lot like swimming against the current. We are naturally formed and shaped by our experiences, our environment, and our relationships. Following Jesus pushes against our own will and desires and forces us to confront the stories we have believed with the truth of God's word.

God's plan and purpose for each of our lives is less about colleges and careers and more about our character. He wants us to be formed and shaped by time with Him. Jesus showed us what God shaped character looks like.

- He was hardworking. He was not lazy, but knew when to rest.
- He was generous. He did not hold tightly to material things.
- He was compassionate. He saw each person with dignity and worth.
- He was self controlled. He was not ruled by His emotions and knew how to patiently wait on God's timing.
- He was obedient. He aimed to please God over himself or men.
- He was joyful. He enjoyed God and His good gifts with gratitude.
- He honored God first in every decision to the point of going to death on the cross saying not my will, but yours be done.
- He was faithful. He endured suffering with complete trust in the goodness of God's plan.