



PASSAGE CONVERSATIONS: for girls 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 girls.

GOD'S DESIGN: for our feelings

God made us in His own image and in doing so, gave us a complex system of emotions. Under God's perfect rule, emotions are a good gift that help us to reflect His nature, relate with Him, and care for His creation.

Unfortunately, in a sin-fallen world, we want to make our feelings the ultimate truth and make God's truth secondary to how we feel. But as followers of Jesus, we are called to submit ourselves first to God and what His Word says. This can be hard: when we feel angry - to offer forgiveness, when we feel worried - to trust that God is with us, when we feel jealous - to choose to be grateful and not discontent, when we feel insecure- to not try to control, manipulate, or criticize others.

Jesus was a human with feelings and emotions, but He also had the wisdom of God. He gave us the perfect example of how to feel our human emotions deeply and still submit ourselves to God's ultimate rule in our lives.

- He felt grief and sadness when He lost dear friends, but He did not get angry at God or lose hope.
- He felt angry when the religious leaders who should have been following him tried instead to trap Him, but He did not show aggression.
- He felt disappointed by the failures of friendship, but He chose to forgive them and offer reconciliation.
- He felt worried about going to the cross, but He gave Himself over to God's will instead of taking control for himself.
- He felt the injustice of being sinless while being punished for the sins of the world, but He chose to have joy in His suffering.