



## **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 habits**

God designed us to worship and to work and to do certain things regularly. We call these practices or habits. He always intended our habits to form us into people who reflect His nature in creation and move us toward His heart.

In a sin-fallen world, we are still formed by our habits, but they do not usually move us closer to God's heart. The problem is, most of this formation is unintentional and we are "conformed to the pattern of this world," more than "transformed by the renewing of [our] mind." The Bible tells us that we can test our love for Jesus by what we have made a habit of, what we do with our hands, what our hearts most desire, and what our mouths speak.

As people who belong to Jesus, we need to be intentional about setting up our lives to follow Him. We do this by spending time with Him so that we can live as He lived. Jesus was a human with a daily routine. We can look to Him to know how to be shaped by Him.

- He spent time knowing the scriptures by heart so that He was rooted in truth.
- He surrounded Himself with close friends who wanted to honor God with their lives.
- He actively served others so that they would know the love of God.
- He spent time with the Father in prayer.
- He tested everything He heard, thought, or desired against what God says.
- He invested in the lives of other believers so that they would grow in godliness.
- He trusted God and was able to rest.