

I Dare You

Module Title: Unbreakable

Lesson 2: Accountability

Objectives:

Students will

- Explore what it means to be a good friend
- Consider the definition of accountability
- Examine Biblical examples of Christian friendship and accountability
- Learn the importance of having Christian peers to keep them on track with their relationship with God

Materials Needed:

- ☐ Paper or Bristol board for signs of Friendship qualities
- ☐ Paper cut up for students to write down purchased qualities, different colours of paper to determine small groups for discussion
- ☐ Envelopes for putting “money” in
- ☐ Monopoly money, tokens or some type of paper-made money in various increments
- ☐ Chart paper
- ☐ Markers, pens or pencils
- ☐ Tape, tacks or sticky tac to attach signs to the wall
- ☐ Copy of list of “Friendship Qualities” (attached)

Minds On:

Create your own BFF! In order to discover what youth value in friendship and what it means to be a good friend, students will have an opportunity to create their own best friend. Using the list of suggested “Friendship qualities” or your own made up list, assign each friendship quality a monetary value. Good qualities being more highly prized will have higher price than less popular qualities. Place these qualities and their values on paper and post them around the room along with envelopes or something similar to collect the “money” in.

Give each student pieces of paper with monetary values on them, enough that they can buy 4 or 5 different qualities, and a piece of paper to write down which qualities they bought. For this you can use monopoly money, tokens or make your own with pieces of paper and write on the amount. When students decide they want to buy a quality, either have a leader there to take the money or have a pocket or envelope for them to put the money in. (You may want to have leaders supervise to make sure students aren’t taking money from the stations rather than paying up!) Have a writing utensil at each station so students can write down what they bought.

Give students 5-10 minutes to look at all of the qualities and make their choices. Then have them gather together as a large group or into smaller groups with a leader (you could assign groups by colour of paper they wrote their qualities on) and share which qualities they bought and why. If you meet as a large group, have a few share what they chose and why.

Say something like: Everyone is unique and chooses their friends for their own reasons, but there are some qualities everyone looks for in a friend. Of all the qualities you had to choose from, what are some qualities that make a good friend?

Give students a chance to think about and respond to this question, make a list of those qualities on a large sheet of paper and allow students to explain why each quality makes a good friend.

We may have friends who have many of the same qualities but most of us probably have some friends who are followers of God and some who aren’t. It is important that we have both Christian and non-Christian friends in our lives for various reasons. Our Christian friends will be there to walk with us in our journey with God. They will be those who remind us of God’s goodness when things are tough, help us to

withstand temptation, and will hold us accountable to our commitment to a deeper relationship with God. What does it mean to hold someone accountable?

Accountability means, someone must give an account to someone else for what they have done (dictionary.com). They are held responsible for their actions by someone else. (You may want to write out this definition and put it somewhere so students have a visual of it and refer back to it).

Action:

In the same small groups students discussed their qualities in, determined by the colour of paper, have students act out the story of King David and the prophet Nathan. Once they have read the story, 2 Samuel 12:1-10, have students focus on the various emotions/feelings David experiences throughout the story and the tricky way in which Nathan gets his point across to the King. Allow for creativity with this, encouraging students to create a contemporary version of this story. Give students about 10-15 minutes to come up with a rendition of the story and have each group perform their skit.

Consolidate/Debrief:

When each group has performed their skit, bring the students back together and discuss the following questions. The story you just acted out was a great example of accountability in action. Let's dissect the story a little bit more.

2 Samuel 12:1-10

1. Who are the two characters in the story?
2. What is the king being held accountable for? (His commitment as King, David was God's anointed King, was to follow God's commands and failed, he now has to answer for his immoral actions towards Uriah and Bathsheba)
3. Why wouldn't Nathan be direct about what David had done?
4. Why is it important to "call" people on their mistakes?
5. How do we tell people they're doing something wrong in a way that still shows love?
6. What might accountability look like in a friendship today?
7. What steps can you take to find an accountability partner?
8. Are you someone others will want as their "accountability partner"? (To think about as they leave, not to be discussed out loud.)