

The goal of this Life Night is to help teens reflect on who they consider themselves to be and begin to understand their identity in Jesus.

### Main Ideas:

- Jesus is still alive and acting uniquely and personally in every person's life, showing us we are worth His time and effort.
- No identity we give ourselves can compete with our Christian identity, which rests in the fact that God became man so man can become God.
- The transformational love, salvation, and identity that Jesus offers us excludes no one.

### Scripture for the Week

- Matthew 18:10-14
- 2 Corinthians 5:15
- 1 John 2:2

### Opening Prayer

Have your teen begin the Life Night with a short prayer – it can be anything! Giving thanks, asking for a special intention, a prayer they know by heart, etc. Begin and end with the sign of the cross.

**Teaching:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZdmGAmeqoeo>

### Scripture Reflection and Discussion Questions:

Begin in prayer. All of the Scripture stories below are based on different interactions Jesus had with other people. Read the first Bible passage and then use the following questions to facilitate a discussion:

- Where do you see yourself in this passage? Why?
- How are you most like the person Jesus interacts with? How are you least like this person?

Continue this method — reading the Scripture passage and then facilitating a brief discussion — for the other passages. After reading and facilitating a brief discussion for all the passages, continue the conversation with the following question:

- If you were one of the people Jesus encountered in Scripture, what would the title of your passage be? Why?

### Bible Passages:

1. Matthew 9:9-13 — The Calling of Matthew
2. Mark 5:24-34 — The Hemorrhaging Woman
3. Matthew 19:16-30 — The Rich Young Man
4. Luke 19:1-10 — Jesus and Zacchaeus
5. Luke 23:6-12 — Jesus Before Herod
6. John 8:1-11 — The Woman Caught in Adultery

### Closing Prayer: Mirror, Mirror Guided Reflection

Lead your teen and yourself through a guided reflection. Create a solemn environment with dim lighting and prayerful music in the background if possible. Ask the first question and then

invite your teen to their answer on a piece of paper. Once you've answered, repeat the process with the remaining questions.

- What part of my identity is important to me and easy for me to embrace? (E.g., I am a man, I am Puerto Rican.)
- What parts of my identity are hard to accept? (E.g., I am a daughter of God, I am a good student.)
- What part of my identity have I denied or altered in order to win the approval of others? (E.g., my Christianity, my friendships, my family.)
- How is Jesus working in my identity?

Once you all have answered, use the following to transition into the next part of the activity: *When we reflect on who we are, we often forget to identify ourselves as a mirror image of the one who created us. It is oftentimes easy to accept the aspects of ourselves we are proud of and reject other parts of ourselves, hiding this portion of ourselves. Regardless, we are made intentionally with great delight. Our Father made us in His image and likeness. God made us a reflection of His Son, Jesus. Saint Paul reminds us in his letter to the Galatians that, through Jesus' crucifixion, it is no longer we who live but Christ who lives in us (Galatians 2:20).*

Close by praying an Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be.