



Theme:
Reaching Out

Devotional

16 ARE WE DONE YET?

1 Start Up

Here's a game that will give your teens a chance to blow off steam! The players must grasp hands tightly, forming a ring around a Hula Hoop. When someone blows a whistle, players may push, pull, or try in any way to maneuver others in the circle toward the hoop. Whoever steps inside the hoop is out. If a player unclasps his hands from the circle, he or she is also out. Strategy becomes a powerful force here. Some players may "gang up" or one or two others in order to get them out of play. The last player left is the winner.

2 Get Focused

When you are finished with the game, play the video clip from the movie, "Are We Done Yet?" Begin a discussion about humility and the role that it plays in our spiritual lives. Were we created to live as autonomous,

independent beings, or as members of a larger group? What role do we play in one another's spiritual lives? Despite the benefits of asking for help, why is this often hard for us to do? Why might the father in the movie clip not want to ask for help? What often happens when we try to do things on our own?

Galatians 6:1-5

- 1) It is possible to be caught in sin, as in a net or trap. How do we get to the point where we are literally "caught"?
- 2) If we're not careful, we can be lured into one another's "sin traps."
- 3) To some extent, we have a responsibility to our fellow believers when they are struggling, either with sin or otherwise. In what way does helping our fellow believers "fulfill the law of Christ"? What is that law?
- 4) It is indeed possible for us to deceive even ourselves! How might this sort of thing happen over time?
- 5) What does Paul mean when he says that we are "nothing"? Is he talking about our worth as children of God?
- 6) There is a specific kind of pride that is sanctioned and approved of by God. How might this be different from the kind of pride that is considered sin?

3 Wind Down

Have your group sit in a circle and ask them to share their individual struggles with one another. (Note: while the students need not delve too deeply into very personal issues, they will see how sharing even the simplest of struggles can be a humbling experience.) Encourage them to humble themselves enough to be willing to say, "I struggle with _____ and I would appreciate your prayers." No matter how big or small the struggle might be, give each student a chance to express honestly how he or she feels about it. When they're all finished, encourage them to make themselves available to one another for prayer or just a listening ear. As the days and weeks go on, remind them to check in with one another regarding each person's struggle, and to continue to pray for one another fervently.