HILLSIDE Students

TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES | Week 1

REMINDERS: Take ATTENDANCE! Use the app & let us know who to add/remove!

LEADER TOOLS

GAME: 🎲🥰 PLAY CHICKEN RUN! Pair up the students. One person in each pair is the farmer, and the other is the chicken. The farmer must guide their chicken from one side of the room to the other, but there's a catch—the chicken must keep their eyes closed the entire time. The farmer cannot touch them and can only make chicken noises (clucking, squawking, flapping sounds) to guide them. The chicken must listen carefully and try to navigate to the finish line using only these sounds. The first pair to cross the finish line wins! To make it even funnier, add obstacles (like chairs or people standing still) that the chickens must avoid!

TOPIC OVERVIEW: It's been said that comparison is a thief of joy. Comparison is also the thief of contentment. It's easy to pick up a phone or watch a YouTube video for thirty minutes and feel worse about your body, your weekend, your friend group, your whole life. Social media wants you to stay engaged, whatever the cost. If they can make you stuck in comparison, wishing and wishing and wishing, you'll probably stay for longer. But what we know is that God created mankind in his own image. Before a student accomplished anything, posted anything, or looked like anything, God stamped his own image on them. Worth isn't earned - it's given.

It's okay to want to be liked, but it's dangerous to want to be liked too much. When we lean into what God says about us, we discover that we were made on purpose, fearfully and wonderfully. We were made with a purpose, to be called his child.

DISCUSSION

ICE-BREAKERS:

- If you could only use one sauce for the rest of your life, what would you choose? (ex: ketchup, soy sauce, gravy, etc.)
- Be honest – what's your screen time for this week?

MESSAGE DEBRIEF & BIBLE STUDY:

- What are some difficulties you face when it comes to technology?
- How does technology lead you to the trap of comparison?
- Read Galatians 1:10. Have you ever looked to a person or outcome for approval, and been disappointed? What was that like?
- As Christians, who does our value or approval come from? How do we live differently when we know this?
- What are some specific examples in your life where you need to obey God instead of pleasing others?
- Read 1 John 3:1. What are some Scriptures that remind us what God says about us? Give students time to brainstorm – there are examples on the next page!
- Challenge: choose one of the Scriptures you talked about to memorize as a group.
    - What are some helpful tools you use to memorize Scripture?
    - How can you keep each other accountable to memorize this verse?
    - Next week, challenge students to recite the passage from memory!

1 Peter 2:9 (NIV) [9]But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

Ephesians 2:10 (NIV) [10]For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 5:8 (NIV) [8]For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light

2 Corinthians 5:20 (NIV) [20]We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

Galatians 3:26 (NIV) [26]So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith,

1 Corinthians 12:27 (NIV) [27]Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

Romans 8:14–15 (NIV) [14]For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. [15]The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father."

Galatians 2:20 (NIV) [20]I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV) [17]Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

John 15:15–16 (NIV) [15]I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. [16]You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.

Ephesians 1:4–5 (NLT) [4]Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. [5]God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure.

Ephesians 1:13 (NLT) [13]And now you Gentiles have also heard the truth, the Good News that God saves you. And when you believed in Christ, he identified you as his own by giving you the Holy Spirit, whom he promised long ago.

Romans 6:11 (NLT) [11]So you also should consider yourselves to be dead to the power of sin and alive to God through Christ Jesus.

Romans 8:37 (NIV) [37]No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

Matthew 5:14 (NIV) [14]"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.