

Friends ★ ★ Club



★ ★ ★ ★ Accountability

Additional Project Ideas

Write a letter. Pair up the girls. Have each set of girls pray together before writing. The letter should begin "Dear (name)." Let the girls know that you're putting 15 minutes on the clock and they should write for the entire 15 minutes. Talking or laughing with anyone other than their partners won't be tolerated during this activity. Have the girls write about two things that they appreciate about their partner and one area where their partner could improve. Instruct the girls on giving constructive criticism before the activity begins. If the girls run out of things to say about their partner, encourage the girls to ask questions of the other person or write about themselves. Have the girls exchange letters and talk about what they've written. After the girls have shared with each other, encourage them to discuss what they learned and how they felt with the group. Encourage the girls to pray for their partner throughout the Accountability unit.

Make a list. Have the girls prayerfully consider what they would like to be remembered for or what they would like to do in their lifetime. Let the girls make a list of several of these things. Encourage the girls to set smaller goals for achieving these things. Allow time for the girls to share their lists and plans with the group. Talk to the girls about the importance of sharing these goals with one another.

Say thank you. Have each girl think of an authority figure who has had a positive influence in her life. Provide the girls with stationery and have each girl write a note to the authority figure thanking them for the positive influence they've had in her life.

Illustrate accountability with a friend. Set up a simple obstacle course outside or in a gym or another open area. Pair up the girls. Tell the girls that one of the partners will be blindfolded and the other partner will give verbal instruction (without touching) to guide her blindfolded partner through the obstacle course. The pairs don't have to compete. Afterwards, lead a discussion with the girls about the activity and relate it to depending on an accountability partner in life.

Listen to maturity. Pair each girl with a trusted woman (post-high school or older) within the church. You can meet at church or at another location. The pair should conduct an activity together. Depending on each pairs' individual interest and expertise, let them choose a project together (learn to do a craft together, cook or bake, organize a party, write a Bible study, etc.). Have the girls journal about what they learned from working with a mature Christian woman.

Take it literally. If you have a knife collector in the church, invite him or her in to talk to the girls about the process of sharpening knives. This will illustrate "iron sharpening iron." Allow plenty of time for the girls to ask questions and see a demonstration. (This would also be a great opportunity to talk about knife safety). Talk with the girls about the illustration the writer in Proverbs used and why it's such a great illustration still today.

Resource Ideas

- *Making the Most of Your Relationships* by Melody Carlson, Nav Press, 2005.
- *Secret Keeper Girl Kit 2: The Gift of True Friendship* by Dannah Gresh, Moody, 2008.
- *Duplicate This! Showing Your Friends How To Live Like Jesus* by Andy Braner, Zondervan, 2007.

Additional Discussion Questions

Discovery #1

- Why is it important to honor God with your talents?
- What does accountability look like in your life today? What about when you're at school? At home? Hanging out with friends?
- Have you ever overheard someone talking bad about you behind your back? Have you ever overheard someone complimenting you to someone else? How do these situations make you feel? How can you honor God in the way you talk about other people?

Discovery #2

- What can you do to help friends who are going through hard times?
- What can you do if you don't have an accountability partner who goes to school with you? What about if you're the only Christian in your family?
- What kinds of things should you talk about with your accountability partner?

Discovery #3

- Who can you be an armor-bearer to today?
- In Jonathan's time, he needed someone to carry actual armor for him when he went to battle. As an armor-bearer today, what kind of "armor" will you be carrying?
- Why is it important to have a partner when you head into battle? What kind of battle are you fighting today?

Discovery #4

- Why is it important to be accountable to those in authority?
- Who is in authority over you right now? How do you react to them? How do you treat them?
- How can you honor God in the way you treat those in authority over you?

Discovery #5

- How can you help others to be what God created them to be?
- What are some hopes and dreams God has given you? How can your friends encourage you to reach these dreams?
- How can your example lead others to Christ?

Discovery #6

- What have you learned about the importance of being accountable to authority? How can this help you grown in your relationship with the Lord?
- How can accountability affect your relationship with the Lord?
- In what areas would you like to be held accountable?