

Girls, Guys, & God: The FYWO/FYMO Talk Guide for Teens

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INTRODUCTION

Based on the bestselling books For Young Women Only and For Young Men Only by Shaunti & Jeff Feldhahn and Lisa & Eric Rice, available from Multnomah Books

Introduction for Youth Leaders

If you're a youth leader, you're our hero. We mean it!

The teens of today are facing huge challenges, and it's people like you who are helping them navigate the confusing waters of adolescence. As parents ourselves, we know how pivotal the influence of youth group leaders can be in the lives of students.

There's something else we know: the girls & guys in your youth group are *very* interested in the opposite sex! And guy-girl interaction is one area where teens can get messed up really bad really fast if they aren't wise.

That's why we conducted original research and wrote the books *For Young Women Only* (FYWO) and *For Young Men Only* (FYMO). Teens who have read these books tell us that our data about what the opposite sex is thinking has made a big difference in their friendships and dating relationships.

If you would like the teens in your youth group to talk about FYWO and FYMO in gender-separated groups, we're glad to help you with that. If you'll look in the back of *For Young Men Only*, you'll see that we've provided a "conversation guide" to help groups of guys study their book. And we've created a whole separate book—the *For Young Women Only Discussion Journal*—for girls to do the same.

But while gender-separated groups are great, we also think there's a lot of value in girls & guys talking *to each other* about these issues. Respectfully. Thoughtfully. And most of all, honestly.

That's where *Girls, Guys, & God* comes in. This "talk guide" is designed to help you get your whole youth group discussing the key findings in FYWO and FYMO. We're thrilled to offer it to you totally free of charge—we believe that much in what it can do for teen relationships.

Talk Guide x 2

When it comes to leading *Girls, Guys, & God* sessions, you've got two basic options before you: a four-session talk guide and a thirteen-session talk guide.

- ▶ **Four-session talk guide.** If you're looking for a quick topic to drop into your youth group schedule, choose this option. Think of it as a sampler ensuring that your teens get a taste of all the most important survey results in FYWO and FYMO without taking up a lot of time.
- ▶ **Thirteen-session talk guide.** If you want to go into the material in FYWO and FYMO in more depth, choose this longer option. It covers most of the chapters from the two books in individual sessions. And of course, if your educational program operates on a quarterly schedule, this talk guide will fit into it nicely.



Four-Session Talk Guide

- Session 1:**
- ▶ *For Young Women Only*, Chapter 1: "What in the World Are These Guys Thinking?"
 - ▶ *For Young Men Only*, Chapter 1: "What Most Guys Never Know"
 - ▶ *For Young Women Only*, Chapter 2: "Your Love Is Not Enough"
 - ▶ *For Young Men Only*, Chapter 2: "Abercrombie Boy vs. Our Hero, Average Joe"

- Session 2:** ➤ *For Young Women Only*, Chapter 3: “The Performance of a Lifetime”
- *For Young Men Only*, Chapter 3: “Why Good Girls Like Bad Boys”
 - *For Young Women Only*, Chapter 4: “Tough or Tender?”
 - *For Young Men Only*, Chapter 4: “When Girls Stop Making Sense”

- Session 3:** ➤ *For Young Women Only*, Chapter 5: “Keeper of the Photo Files”
- *For Young Men Only*, Chapter 5: “Breaking Up, Breaking You”
 - *For Young Women Only*, Chapter 6: “Seeing the Inner and Outer Beauty”
 - *For Young Men Only*, Chapter 6: “No Dropped Calls”

- Session 4:** ➤ *For Young Women Only*, Chapter 7: “Body Language”
- *For Young Men Only*, Chapter 7: “What It Really Means to Score”
 - *For Young Women Only*, Chapter 8: “Words for Your Heart”
 - *For Young Men Only*, Chapter 8: “The Guy Every Girl Wants...Really”



Thirteen-Session Talk Guide

- Session 1:** ➤ *For Young Women Only*, Chapter 1: “What in the World Are These Guys Thinking?”
- *For Young Men Only*, Chapter 1: “What Most Guys Never Know”
 - *For Young Women Only*, Chapter 2: “Your Love Is Not Enough”

Session 2: ► *For Young Men Only*, Chapter 2: “Abercrombie Boy vs. Our Hero, Average Joe”

Session 3: ► *For Young Women Only*, Chapter 3: “The Performance of a Lifetime”

Session 4: ► *For Young Men Only*, Chapter 3: “Why Good Girls Like Bad Boys”

Session 5: ► *For Young Women Only*, Chapter 4: “Tough or Tender?”

Session 6: ► *For Young Men Only*, Chapter 4: “When Girls Stop Making Sense”

Session 7: ► *For Young Women Only*, Chapter 5: “Keeper of the Photo Files”

Session 8: ► *For Young Men Only*, Chapter 5: “Breaking Up, Breaking You”

Session 9: ► *For Young Women Only*, Chapter 6: “Seeing the Inner and Outer Beauty”

Session 10: ► *For Young Men Only*, Chapter 6: “No Dropped Calls”

Session 11: ► *For Young Women Only*, Chapter 7: “Body Language”

Session 12: ► *For Young Men Only*, Chapter 7: “What It Really Means to Score”

Session 13: ► *For Young Women Only*, Chapter 8: “Words for Your Heart”

► *For Young Men Only*, Chapter 8: “The Guy Every Girl Wants...Really”



“& God”

When writing FYWO and FYMO, we didn't quote much Scripture or refer specifically to many Christian principles. And frankly, that was tough for us! Our relationship with Jesus Christ is the most important thing in our lives, and there's nothing we want more for teens than that they come to passionately follow Him too. But the focus of the books is presenting solid research data about what guys & girls are actually thinking about each other—that and nothing more.

In this youth group guide, though, we don't hold back on the spiritual content. That's where the “& God” part of the title comes from. We have teens look up Bible verses and think about how God wants them to interpret the material and make choices in their own relationships. And with *you* in the room to help, your teens will learn to connect guy-girl relationships with godly truth in a powerful and personal way.

What You've Got, What You'll Need

You're the expert. We're confident that you'll be able to take *Girls, Guys, & God* and adapt and apply it effectively for your particular group of teens. But we've tried to make it as easy for you as possible.

For one thing, you won't need a lot of expensive or hard-to-get materials. Each session will list common supplies (Bibles, paper, pens—stuff like that) that you will probably want to use. In some cases there are optional activities that require additional supplies. But if you don't want to do those activities, the session will still work great for you.

We do recommend that you see that all of the guys & girls in your youth group have a copy of either *For Young Women Only* or *For Young Men Only* and bring it to the session so they can refer to it. If they manage to read the related chapters in their book before the next session, so much the better.

Of course, we don't expect guys to have read the girls' book or vice versa. So we have created “cheat sheets” summarizing all the chapters. You can hand out copies of these “cheat sheets” to your group members at the appropriate times in the session. They contain a chapter recap and the survey data cited in the chapter.

For some sessions, we also provide other handouts to help you make your sessions more fun and valuable.

That's it. You're good to go!

Go with God

We know that God would love for the teens in your youth group to have healthy relationships with each other and go on to enjoy wonderful marriages that last a lifetime. *Girls, Guys, & God* can be one important tool that helps them get there.

Thanks for your concern for the group of teens in your care. We're praying that God will do some awesome things in the midst of your group.

Shaunti & Jeff Feldhahn

Lisa & Eric Rice

Related Books:

- *For Young Women Only: What You Need to Know About How Guys Think*
- *For Young Women Only Discussion Journal*
- *For Young Men Only: A Guy's Guide to the Alien Gender*

Also check out:

- *For Women Only: What You Need to Know About the Inner Lives of Men*
- *For Women Only Discussion Guide*
- *For Men Only: A Straightforward Guide to the Inner Lives of Women*
- *For Men Only Discussion Guide*
- *For Parents Only: Getting Inside the Head of Your Kid*
- *For Parents Only Discussion Guide*

Related Websites:

- www.foryoungwomenonlybook.com
- www.foryoungwomenonlybook.com

Also check out:

- www.shaunti.com
- www.forwomenonlybook.com
- www.formenonlybook.com
- www.forparentsonlybook.com