



Spring 2005 *GOstudents.net* Bible Study

What Christian Girls Wish Guys Knew

Materials:

- *GOstudents.net* Download Video: *What Girls Think*
- Computer, monitor or video projector to display video
- One copy of *GOstudents.net* Group Activity for “What Christian Girls Wish Guys Knew” for each student who will participate in one of the skits (more under “Group Activity” below)
- A chalkboard, whiteboard, overhead projector or large sheet of paper on which to write
- Optional: Printouts of the *GOstudents.net* article called “What Girls Think.” You’ll find it through the Hot Topics section of *GOstudents.net*. (Or click this link in your PDF document: <http://www.gostudents.net/site/pp.asp?c=ejINI5PNKpG&b=387853>)

Video Intro:

Begin your study by explaining that today you’re going to talk about what Christian girls tend to think about guys. Obviously, not every Christian student thinks the same way about everything. But the idea is to help guys start to understand a little more about some of the differences between guys and girls—especially girls who are committed to their relationship with Jesus above everything else. (For those who ask, *GOstudents.net* will be featuring the reverse story about guys, and a Bible study similar to this one will be available, complete with video, in the Summer 2005 quarter.)

Start by playing the *GOstudents.net* Download Video called *What Girls Think*. It’s 3 minutes, 5 seconds long and features three high school girls talking about the differences between guys and girls. It’s meant to get your students focused on the issues of this study.

Group Activity:

This activity could be handled in several different ways, depending on the size and personality of your group. It includes five scenarios intended to be acted out very briefly between two “role-players.” The hope is that it will be a way to help both guys and girls better understand the issues involved with a little humor.

Option 1: All girls or mixed pairs: To really help guys understand how girls think, it might work best to have girls act out all the parts. So, two girls would role-play both the guy and girl in each scenario. However, if



you're limited on students or really want to get the guys involved, mix it up however best fits your group.

Option 2: Prep ahead or moment's notice: If you have students with enough insight and personality to jump into these role-plays without any warning, a command performance could be a lot of fun. However, if your group is a little more cautious, think about assigning the roles a day or two ahead to give students a chance to think about it before being called to the front of the room.

However you mix it up, plan to have fun with this. But remember that you're the director. You don't have to work all the scenarios if you don't have time. Keep the scenes short (2-3 minutes max). Pick students who won't take things in inappropriate directions. Emphasize points from the rest of the study as they come up. If needed, be ready to role-play one of the scenarios yourself.

What (Most) Christian Girls Wish Guys Knew

As we've just seen—and probably already knew—there are some huge differences between how guys and girls think and act. Lots of times, guys just don't get girls. They don't know how they're supposed to act or what girls want them to do. Today, we're going to look at this issue from a Christian perspective and learn some things that most Christian girls wish guys knew. And we're not just talking about romantic relationships here, but also about simple friendships and family relationships.

1. Listening is better than fixing.

Girls tend to be relational and feelings oriented. They see something that's not working or is causing trouble and they want to talk about it with someone. They want to explore how it makes them feel a little bit. Guys, however, tend to be problem solvers. They will see something that's not working or is causing trouble for the girl and start looking for solutions. They will want to fix it (and stop her crying!).

For a lot of girls, this difference in approaching problems is frustrating. When a girl feels

emotional or has a problem and turns to a guy friend to talk about it, she may not be ready to fix it. She just wants to talk about it and feel like the guy understands.

Offering a listening ear is a good habit to build in all our relationships, not just between guys and girls. The Bible tells us to be available to share other people's emotions as a way of showing that we care about them. [Ask someone to read Romans 12:15 out loud: "Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep" (HCSB).]



For guys, it takes some courage and self control to be able to listen and not try to fix. It takes even more of those things to share a little emotion back to a female they care about, including a good friend, sister or mom.

2. Friendship really matters.

We all need good friends, and building friendships with the opposite sex is a healthy way to prepare for romantic relationships. It's also just good, period. Some girls get frustrated because lots of guys don't seem to be interested in friendship if there's not a shot at something more.

Some guys just don't feel comfortable building close, nonromantic relationships with girls. If they can't have a dating relationship, they move on. But that's an immature way of looking at guy/girl relationships. Guys who can't be friends with girls are missing out on some great relationships.

Of course, being friends requires being available sometimes, being able to have good conversations and being interested in the other person's life. Girls like guys who know how to talk a little bit. Solomon wrote that "a man takes joy in giving an answer; and a timely word—how good that is!" (Proverbs 15:23, HCSB).

3. Real Christian men respect women.

For some lousy reasons, Christian guys sometimes get the idea that it's okay to talk badly about girls when they're not around—to make comments about their bodies, to mock them for their moods, to treat them unkindly simply because they're women. That is always, always wrong.

If we took the time to read the last chapter of Romans, you'd hear Paul send his respect and greetings to at least a dozen women who were his friends and co-workers in ministry. Paul clearly respected women as important people in the church. He told Timothy to treat older women as mothers and younger women as sisters. Of course, if a guy doesn't treat his mom or his sisters very well, some Christian girls get a clue that he won't treat them well in the long run, either.

Jesus broke the rules of His culture in the way He treated women with respect. He took time to teach them the truth about Himself, to build friendships with several key women in His life, and after His resurrection He appeared first to a woman—a high honor!

If a Christian guy hopes to point people to Jesus, he better be treating women as Jesus did, with respect, kindness and honor.



4. Looks do matter, but not as much as what's inside.

This is one thing guys really don't get about girls. That's because looks make a huge difference to guys—especially teenage guys. Guys do care about more than just outward appearance, but they definitely care about looks a lot more than girls do.



Still, looks matter to girls. As we saw in the video, it's what they notice first. A guy who wants to attract a girl might need to put a little effort into not looking like a total slob. But he better be spending some serious effort on the things girls care about even more—character.

Here's a list of things that make guys really attractive to lots of Christian girls: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith, gentleness and self-control. Recognize that list? It's from Galatians 5:22-23, and it's a list of qualities that come out in the lives of Christians who are walking closely enough with God to be under the constant influence of the Holy Spirit.

Yes, it's true that some girls go through phases where they're more attracted to "bad boys." But that attraction fades. Eventually, girls want to be with men they can respect for their strength, integrity and commitment.

5. "Put me second."

Okay, this one might only apply to more mature Christian girls. They're the ones that understand they don't want a guy who is going to make them the center of his universe. They're looking for a guy who has made God number one in his life above everything, including them.

These girls wish Christian guys understood that they care more about a man's spiritual commitment to Christ than anything else. As the girl in the video said, they'd like a guy to challenge them spiritually and take the lead in spiritual issues.

Paul said something to a pastor named Timothy about leadership—and it's a great example of how some growing Christian girls wish Christian guys would act: "You should be an example . . . in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity" (1 Timothy 4:12, HCSB).

These girls wish the Christian guys they might go out with would be the ones to put the limits on unhealthy physical intimacy, to sometimes lead conversations toward spiritual issues and to express concerns about leading friends and family members to Christ.

Conclusion:

Remind your students once again that this list of things Christian girls wish guys knew is meant to be general. It doesn't necessarily apply to every Christian girl. But every girl and

guy would be better off personally and in relationships with the opposite sex if they made Christ the center of their universe. Jesus attracted thousands with His speech, conduct, attitudes and actions. Guys who grow more and more like Jesus develop that same attractive spark in their own lives, even if they don't look like an actor on the WB.

Close in prayer, asking God to help you and your students to live in a way that makes you attractive first to Him. Ask Him to help all of you to think wisely about the opposite sex, to respect each other and to grow in your ability to build healthy relationships with each other. Thank Him for the friendships you already share.

Remind your students to check out *GOstudents.net* to read a more extended roundtable interview with a group of girls about what they wish guys knew. Also, encourage them to stay tuned to the site (and your study) for an upcoming interview with guys about what they wish girls knew.

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