

## Kick it Off

Begin this session by posing the following statement to all of your students: What would happen if it was announced that there would be no I-Pods, two-ways, cell phones or any electronic devices allowed at the next meeting. How would you react? Elicit responses from a few young people in the session and ask them to be honest. Many of the students would be upset. Ask why.

There is an old saying, “*You want to have your cake and eat it, too.*” Many people, not only young people, want the best of both worlds. They want to talk about God in a rap session and listen to other kind of music on their I-Pod. They want to come to church for service, but text a boyfriend or girlfriend while in church. Sparky D’s story of the Hip-Hop life shows that having fame and fortune can still leave you empty. Read Sparky D’s life-changing story.

## Key Verse

“The Scriptures say ‘I am the holy God, and you must be holy too.’” *1 Peter 1.16, CEV*

## Keep it Real

**Small Group Study** Pass out the magazine or article to the entire group along with the study sheets. Divide the students into small groups and have students read the article and answer the questions as a group. Let each group know that they have 10 minutes to complete the task. After the ten minutes are up, have one group member from each group share out. Spend 20 minutes on this part of the assignment.

**Whole Group Study** Pass out the magazine or article to the entire group along with the study sheets. Read the article aloud. Ask for volunteers to read different sections. After the students have completed the article, discuss the questions in a whole group forum. Spend 20 minutes on this assignment.

## Keep the Faith

Break the entire group into three groups (Have students count off, 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3—Group all the 1’s in a particular section. Then group the 2’s in a section and the 3’s. Explain that each group will represent a “rapper” responding to the Radio Call-In Show, “*Ask-A-Rapper.*” Choose three volunteers, one from each group, to be Caller #1, Caller #2 and Caller #3. Give the “*Callers*” the following information on an index card and have each group respond to their particular caller’s concern.

***For Caller #1*** – “Whassup Rapper. Please help me with something. Do I have to cut out cursing in my lyrics in order to be a Christian? You see, I love God, but people won’t buy my records unless I put a few curse words in it.” ***Signed, To curse or not to curse.***

***For Caller #2*** – “How you doing, Rapper. My friends say that my beats are nice and my music is poppin. My first album talked a lot of sex and sleepin around. Now that I have a relationship with Christ, I wanted to ask do you think it’s okay to make a CD about God alone and then make another album that talks about sex and sleepin around?”

***For Caller #3*** – Hey Rapper. I’m a Christian rapper. I only rap about God. But the other day, my friend left his CD with some new beats. I knew they weren’t copyrighted so I used them. They were so hot! I will let him know after the CD is released. Friends should understand, shouldn’t they? ***Signed, Will explain later.***

***Signed, Confused.***

Debrief by leading students to discuss the issue of serving two masters (God and Satan). Have students realize that although it takes time, students must move to take a stand for God.

### **Keep it Movin'**

Choose your music wisely.

Listen to rappers who have a positive or more spiritual message.

Keep in your mind that you can't serve “two masters.”

Make sure God is a part of your decisions.

*Close in Prayer* –Pray for all the rappers, such as Sparky D, who are trying to make changes in their lives. Pray for young people to make the right choices in music.