

WEEK 3

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

Jesus loves
Jesus loves
Jesus loves

THIS SERIES

"Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so." If you grew up going to church, it's probably the first song about Jesus you can remember singing. "Jesus loves me" may seem like a pretty straightforward and foundational belief, but let's be honest . . . singing about Jesus' love is a lot easier than actually imitating it. In this 4-week series, you'll challenge students to observe, imitate, and be transformed by the radical love of Jesus for all people, but specifically His love for **children**, for the **poor**, for the **stranger**, and for the **sinner**.

THIS WEEK

THE BIG IDEA

Jesus welcomed strangers.

THE BIBLE

John 4:1-26; James 2:1-9

- **Name a group of people that our society labels as strange, foreign, or "less-than."**
- **No judgment, but be honest—how do you usually react to, or interact with, someone who seems strange or foreign to you?**
- **Look around at the diversity of people in this room. Think about our ethnicities, cultures, families, neighborhoods, and interests. What kinds of people are *not* represented in our group?**
- **If those kinds of people showed up next week, how well do you think we would welcome them?**
- **Are there any specific groups or types of people you think would feel unwelcome here?**
- **What should we do to change that?**
- **How do you think Jesus would respond to movements that address racial or gender bias or discrimination, like #BlackLivesMatter or #MeToo?**
- **How do you think we as individuals, or as a church, should respond to those movements?**
- **Read James 2:1-9. How do you think you show favoritism or bias toward others? Have you ever been the victim of someone else's bias? Give an example.**
- **How might your tendencies toward favoritism or bias be hindering you from loving others?**
- **This week, who are you going to love like Jesus loves? And how are you going to love them?**