

WEEK 4

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

STRONGER

Life hurts sometimes. If you haven't already experienced it, there will be a day when you'll encounter pain, failure, or loss. Sometimes the hurt we feel happens because of something we do, or something that is done to us, or something that is no one's fault at all. In this 4-week series, we'll talk about how, when life hurts, or goes wrong, or doesn't make sense, these things are true: **Jesus can redeem what's gone wrong, God can be trusted, God gives us each other, and God helps us persevere.**

THIS WEEK

THE BIG IDEA

When life gets hard,
God helps us persevere.

THE BIBLE

Romans 5:2-5; 2 Corinthians 12:8-10;
James 1:2-4

- **What's something that's good for you, but that you absolutely hate? Why do you hate it?**
- **Have you ever been happy you persevered through something you didn't want to do? Why are you glad you stuck with it?**
- **How can someone develop perseverance?**
- **Why do you think it's important to God that we develop perseverance?**
- **What's one area where you think you have grit? How did you develop it?**
- **What's one area where you don't have much grit at all? How can you develop more of it?**
- **Do you have any long-term goals for your life? Name one if you do.**
- **What are some of God's long-term goals for us and for the world?**
- **Read James 1:2-4. What part of this passage do you find most encouraging and why? Which part do you find most challenging and why?**
- **What's one difficulty that you need God's help to endure right now? How do you hope persevering grows your faith? How to you hope it grows your character?**

ACTIVITY

Take out your devices! Head to angeladuckworth.com/grit-scale and have everyone in your group take the test. Record your scores and talk about them together.