

WEEK 1

SMALL GROUP GUIDE



WORTH IT

To some people, the Easter season is all about candy, bunnies, and colorful eggs. Of course, Easter is a time of joy and celebration, but that's not the whole story — because, before we can celebrate the joy of Jesus' victory, we have to first remember the pain of Jesus' suffering. In this series, we'll look at Jesus' final days, death, and resurrection, as well as the experiences of the early Church, as we see how **the Jesus who suffered suffers with you** and **the Jesus who lives now lives in you**.

THIS WEEK

THE BIG IDEA

The Jesus who suffered suffers with you.

THE BIBLE

Matthew 26; Hebrews 2:9 & 17-18, 4:14-16;
Isaiah 53:1-5

- **Have you ever spent a lot of time or energy on something that was not worth the investment? What was it?**
- **Have you ever done something that was difficult, but worth it in the end? What was it?**
- **Think about the hardest thing you experienced this year. How did that experience make you feel? Sad? Anxious? Hurt? Afraid? Alone? Ashamed? Rejected?**
- **Think about the emotions that were just shared. Can you think of a time when Jesus would have felt each of those emotions? Share your ideas!**
- **Read Isaiah 53:1-5. How does it make you feel to know that Jesus thought you were worth all of that suffering?**
- **Why should we remember and reflect on the suffering Jesus endured?**
- **Why do you think it's helpful to talk to God about the hard things we experience?**
- **Do you think we can only help or comfort others if we have experienced the same hurt they're experiencing? Why or why not?**
- **How can we comfort others if we haven't experienced the same hurt they're experiencing?**
- **Do you need any help or comfort because of something difficult going on in your life right now? Is there someone you can comfort? How can this group help?**

ACTIVITY

As a group, take turns reading portions of the story of Jesus' trial and crucifixion. Encourage students to stop and share their reflections, observations, questions, and reactions as you read together.