

# SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE

Undeclared / Week 3

## BEFORE GROUP

### BOTTOM LINE

Because of Jesus, death is defeated.

### SCRIPTURE

*"Then, when our dying bodies have been transformed into bodies that will never die, this Scripture will be fulfilled: 'Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?' For sin is the sting that results in death, and the law gives sin its power. But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 15:54-57 NLT*

*"The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you." Romans 8:11 NLT*

### GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To encourage students to take one step toward believing in Jesus and recognizing how His death and

resurrection can impact the way they view both life and death.

### THINK ABOUT THIS

This conversation leans toward a heavy subject matter: death. Be sensitive to the different perspectives you have in the room when it comes to the topic—students who've experienced loss recently, students who have fears about it, students who may have lost someone who isn't a Christian, students who know someone sick or on the verge of passing away, etc. While you want the conversation to land on the fact that Jesus brings us new and eternal life—something to celebrate—you have to navigate the difficult and personal topic of death in order to get there. Doing that with sensitivity will help your students stay engaged.

*This guide is a suggestion, not a formula. Adjust the questions and activities as needed, and don't feel like you need to do, or ask, everything you see here.*

## DURING GROUP

### ICE BREAKER

What's the worst ending you've ever seen in a book, movie, or TV show?

### DISCUSS THIS

1. What's one example of an ending a middle schooler might experience . . .
  - In middle school?
  - In a sports season?
  - In friendships?
  - In their family?
2. Do you think the ending of something is a good thing or a bad thing? Why?
3. How does knowing that nothing can defeat Jesus (even death!) change the way you think or feel about . . .
  - Life here on earth?
  - Life after someone dies?
4. If you believe in Jesus, how might knowing you have His power living in you change the way you live your life this week?
5. If you aren't sure yet what you believe about Jesus, what's one step you can take this week to find out more about Him?

### DO THIS (EXPERIENCE)

Explain to your few that Easter isn't about mourning the loss of Jesus, but instead it's about rejoicing in the fact that He's still alive and that His Spirit lives in each of us. Through Jesus' death and resurrection, He defeated separation, sin, and death for us. That's something worth celebrating! So, celebrate this truth as group with an Easter party!