

## WEEK 3

### DISCUSSION GUIDE For Middle Schoolers

ON THE  
FLIP  
SIDE

Jesus isn't known for telling people what they wanted to hear. Jesus' message was unlike any message people had ever heard before. He didn't give shallow motivational speeches or feel-good sermons. He didn't recycle the same messages other religious leaders were teaching. He flipped people's ideas about God, the world, and themselves completely upside down — usually in uncomfortable ways. **God created the world and each of us with intentional and wonderful design. When our perspectives are flipped to see as God sees we can chase after God's best for our lives.** In this four-week series, we'll compare Jesus' words in the Gospels with the words of the Old Testament prophets to see how God's words have always challenged our understanding of what's wrong or right, good or bad, and just or unjust. We'll talk about how, both then and now, **God flips our assumptions** about who God values, our definition of righteousness, our understanding of what's good enough, and our definition of justice.

#### THIS WEEK

### BIG IDEA

Jesus flipped our understanding of what's good enough.

### BIBLE

Matthew 5:38-48; Ephesians 2:4-7;  
Colossians 3:12-13

- **What's a situation where you never settle for "good enough"? What's a situation where you definitely do?**
- **If following Jesus was a scale of 1-5 (with 3 being "good enough") what do you think each number on that scale would look like?**
- **How did Jesus flip our understanding of what God says is "good enough"?**
- **Read Colossians 3:12-13. When is it most difficult for you to do this?**
- **What are some things that could prevent you from going the second mile for someone? How can we help each other overcome those obstacles?**
- **This week, what is one way God might be inviting you to go the second mile for someone? What are you going to do about it?**

#### ACTIVITY

Grab a pad of sticky notes and a marker! As you discuss the question about creating a scale of 1-5, use your sticky notes to capture everyone's responses and make the scale on a nearby wall or floor.

*WHO IS YOUR ONE?*