AFTERLIFE

WEEK 3 APRIL 10 + 13, 2022

LEADER PREP

MAIN POINT Because of the resurrection, Peter knew he was forgiven.

SCRIPTURE

John 21:15-17

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To help students change how they react to guilt and experience God's grace in small group through a community where they can be fully known.

THINK ABOUT THIS

This small group could be a time when students express things they feel guilty for. It is important that your reaction points them toward grace, not shame. React on the inside, and have some statements prepared beforehand, just in case you are caught off guard by what students share.

EASTER CHALLENGE: COME SIT WITH US

It's not too late! Who are you inviting to sit with you and your family? Encourage your students to do this with their families too!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

THE CHECK IN

- How was everyone's week? Share Highs & Lows.
- Someone recap the main point of the message.
- What is your typical reaction when you feel guilty? (Place blame, hide, deny, etc.) *Leader note: This is* for them to learn how to identify their style of dealing with guilt, don't stay on this for very long.

THE WORD

- Have someone READ John 21:15-17 out loud. As they read, everyone imagine you are Peter, who has denied Jesus three times. What would you feel?
- Knowing how Jesus responded to Peter after his experience with denying Him, is it easy or difficult to believe that's what Jesus would say to you?
- Think about an area of your life where you have felt guilty. Don't say it out loud. Who is one person you could share that with who would encourage you and remind you of God's grace for you? (Leader note: Give students 10-15 seconds to identify this area in their own mind, but do not ask them to admit guilt in group.)
- Do you feel like our small group is a place where you can show up and speak up when you feel guilty? Why or why not? (Perhaps, what is one thing we can do as a group to make our small group a place where we can swap guilt for grace?)
- What would change if you actually believed that God forgave you for what you did, and you didn't have to carry your guilt?

APPLICATION

- How can we live in God's forgiveness for us?
- Who can your family invite to sit with you at Easter? Anyone invited anyone yet? How did that go?
 PRAY

We are going to close in prayer. What prayer requests do y'all have?

John 21:15-17 NIV

"When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?"

"Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my lambs."

16 Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep."

17 The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said,

"Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."

NOTES