

# LEADER PREP

#### **MAIN POINT**

Do something you're scared to do.

#### **SCRIPTURE**

Matthew 28:18-20 NIV

#### **GOAL OF SMALL GROUP**

To show students they have the power right now, as middle schoolers, to step up, be brave and create positive change in the world.

#### THINK ABOUT THIS

Remember that "scary" is a relative term here. The things that might feel like scary steps to take for some kids—speaking up in small group, signing up for a mission trip, inviting a friend to church, donating money to a cause—may not be a big deal at all for others. It's important to not downplay or diminish anything students share that feels intimidating to them. Instead, take the time to validate how they feel and then speak truth over them. You're in such a unique position to be a voice that speaks real courage into their fears. And the reality is you may be one of the only adults in some of their lives who sees and calls out their potential to do big things as a part of the movement of Jesus. Don't miss the chance to do just that! Be sure to encourage even the smallest of steps you see your students take toward stepping out to do something they're scared of for the sake of serving others.

# **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

### THE CHECK IN

- How was everyone's week? Share Highs & Lows.
- Someone recap the main point of the message in your own words.
- If you could change anything about the world, what would you change and why?
- What's one reason doing something to serve others might be scary or uncomfortable?

#### **THE WORD**

- READ Matthew 28:18-20 NIV.
- What is Jesus asking His followers to do?
- What feels scary about trying to do this yourself?
- DO THIS: Pass out post-it notes and pens and have each student write down one thing they're scared to do when it comes to serving others or sharing with others about Jesus. Then have students place them on the floor or a wall or somewhere everyone can see.
- What similarities or differences do you notice about what everyone wrote?
- Even though these fears are real, should they keep us from serving? Why or why not?
- Who can share a story about a time you were scared to serve someone or share about Jesus, but you did and it worked out?

#### **APPLICATION**

- What are different ways we can be brave and overcome these fears?
- What are some steps you can take to more courageously serve others and share with them about Jesus?

#### **PRAY**

We are going to close in prayer.
Anyone have any prayer requests?
Leave extra time for your ending praying, asking God for the courage to overcome the fears that students wrote down when it comes to serving others and sharing about Him with others.

### **MATTHEW 28:18-20 NIV**

"18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

## **NOTES**