

# WEEK 1

DISCUSSION GUIDE *for middle schoolers*



## THIS WEEK

### **BIG IDEA**

Jesus shows us listening is worth repeating.

### **BIBLE**

Mark 10:46–52; Proverbs 18:13;  
James 1:19

## **ABOUT THIS WEEK**

Music plays in the background of almost every store we enter, but how often do we actually listen to it? This week, we'll look at the story where Jesus stopped to listen to a man named Bartimaeus. By slowing down to pay attention to what was happening in the lives of the people around him, **Jesus shows us listening is worth repeating.**

- **What is a song that gets stuck in your head any time you hear it?**
- **Was there a time when you felt like you felt genuinely listened to? How did it make you feel? What did they do to make you feel listened to?**
- **Why do you think Jesus asked Bartimaeus what Jesus wanted him to do for him?**
- **What characters in the story did you relate with the most? If you had been in their positions, what would have been going through your mind? How would you have reacted? Would you have done anything differently?**
- **Read James 1:19. How do you think being quick to speak and slow to listen makes anger more likely?**
- **Today, what is one relationship where you can begin practicing this week's listening on repeat? What will that look like in practice?**



**INSTRUCTIONS:** *Make a small group playlist. Have each person pick a song to add to a playlist your group can listen to this week to help reflect on what it looks like to listen to others.*