

WEEK 3

DISCUSSION GUIDE for middle schoolers

THE MAKING OF



THIS WEEK

BIG IDEA

With God, difficult moments can help our character grow.

BIBLE

John 15:16–22; Psalm 27:7–14;
Romans 8:28

ABOUT THIS WEEK

The stunt teams in movies know how getting the right shot can mean putting themselves into challenging situations over and over. This week, we'll hear Jesus' words to his disciples as he prepared them for a future without his physical presence. Jesus' words can help us stay focused on what's important by reminding us that **with God, difficult moments can help**

Let's Break the Ice // **Optional: Discipleship Moment Follow-Up:**

- If you were the star in an action movie, do you think you would do your own stunts or would you hire a stunt person to do them?
- **Optional: Last week, we talked about overcoming temptation and challenged each other to memorize 1 Corinthians 10:13. Does anyone have it memorized and want to share it? Has it been helpful as you faced temptation this week?**

Before We Open Our Bibles:

- What stood out to you from the message this week?
- Have you ever gone through a tough time and, looking back, realized how much you grew from it? How did you see God working in that moment?

Bible Study:

- **Read Together: Read John 15:16-22 and Psalm 27:7-14**
 - *Telos Bible Page Numbers: pg 1052 (John 15:16-22) // pg 535*

Discussion Questions:

- What stands out to you in these passages from John and Psalm 27? Why?
- In John 15:16-22, Jesus prepares His disciples for difficult times. What does He say about how they should respond when challenges arise?
- David in Psalm 27 expresses his confidence in God during difficult times. What can we learn from his response to hardship?

- **Read Together: Read James 1:2-4**
 - *Telos Bible Page Numbers: pg 1213*
- According to this verse, why are hard times necessary for us to grow up in spiritual maturity?

Make It Real:

- How do you think praying honestly about what you are facing might change your perspective as you are experiencing difficulty?
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Prayer:

- Share Requests: Share any prayer requests or praises with the group.
 - Group Prayer: Ask God to help us trust Him in difficult moments, to guide us through challenges, and to grow our character through each experience.
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(Optional – Grow Deeper) Discipleship Moment:

Journaling: Journaling is a spiritual practice that you may have never tried before. By writing down our thoughts and feelings, especially during difficult times, we are forced to slow down, reflect, and truly communicate how we feel in a safe space. This week, take some time to write down by hand how you're feeling about something difficult that you're facing. Imagine you're writing a letter to God and allow yourself to be completely honest.