

WEEK 3
LESSON OUTLINE

THE MAKING OF



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 our character grow.**

WHAT?

There are so many incredible stunts featured in movies. Whether it's jets flying through a canyon, a car chase through city streets, or an intense lightsaber battle, these stunts keep us glued to the screen. Can you imagine hanging on to the outside of an airplane? How about doing it eight times? Have you ever felt like that, though? You are trying hard to make the right decision or create good moments for the people around you, but it requires multiple takes. What is God up to in moments like this?

SO WHAT?

Jesus tells his followers in John 15:16-22 that life was difficult for him, and they should expect the same. When trials arise, that doesn't mean God has left you. Instead, know that God is with you and will help you grow, even in the most challenging moments. Throughout Jesus' life, we see his faithfulness even when things are difficult or painful. He modeled for us what it looks like to trust in God, persevere through trials, and love others deeply. When we rely on God's presence in our lives, we can do the same.

In Psalm 27:7–14, the writer, David, is honest about what he hopes God will do. He wants God to keep guiding him through his uncomfortable experiences. David is confident that God will help him see goodness and help him grow through this experience. He makes a request and feels safe to confidently wait and see how God would work—both in the situation and in him because **with God, difficult moments can help our character grow.**

NOW WHAT?

Here are a few ideas to consider for any season of life. Even when things are going well, these practices help create habits that carry us through life's challenging scenes.

- **TALK TO GOD:** When you experience a challenge, talk with God. Like David in the Psalms and Jesus, before he was crucified, we can go to God with our difficult moments—big or small.
- **ASK FOR HELP:** There are people in your life who can support you. You might be surprised at how many people relate to what you're going through or can offer you help and resources.
- **KEEP GOING:** Jesus shows us that difficult moments are chances to keep growing in our character. Rather than give up, we can learn from our mistakes and try again. God gives us what we need to face challenges.

When we intentionally build habits that connect us with God and each other, we will start building and shaping who we become tomorrow because, **with God, difficult moments can help our character grow.**