

WEEK 4

HIGH SCHOOL DISCUSSION GUIDE

IMAGE BEARER

THIS WEEK

BIG IDEA

You don't have to earn God's love. You are made right with Him through Jesus—not through being perfect.

BIBLE

Philippians 3:4–9

ABOUT THIS WEEK

You don't have to earn your way to God—He already did the work through Jesus. When you trust in Christ, your identity isn't "what I've done," but "who I belong to." Real freedom comes from resting in grace, not striving for approval.

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

- Last week, we encouraged each other to fast from something that distracts us from God for 24 hours. What did you fast from, and how did it go?
- Have you ever dedicated a ton of time to something, thinking it's what you wanted most, only to move on to something else afterwards?
- Where in your life do you feel the most pressure to prove yourself?

Bible Study

- Read Together: As a group, read Philippians 3:4-11 NIV
 - *Telos Bible Page Numbers: Philippians 3:4-11 (pg 1161)*

Discussion Questions:

- Paul had a long list of spiritual and social accomplishments. Why do you think he says they're "worthless" compared to knowing Jesus?
- What does it mean that we're "made right" with God, not by effort, but by faith in Jesus? How is that different from how most of life works?
- What's the difference between living to earn love vs. living from a place of already being loved?
- Why do you think it's so hard for people—even Christians—to believe they don't have to perform for God?

Make it Real:

- If you actually believed God loved you just as you are, how would that change the way you live, decide, or show up this week?

Discipleship Moment:

- **Do nothing:** Set aside 10 minutes this week to do absolutely nothing productive – no phone, no music, no checklist, no serving, no striving. Just sit quietly with this truth: "God fully loves me, even when I'm doing nothing for Him. Let that sink in."

Group Prayer:

- Pray that we would be overwhelmed by God's love this week. Ask specifically for moments to encounter and be reminded of His love daily.