

WEEK 4

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

for middle schoolers

LOST AND FOUND

Have you ever been lost? Maybe you wandered away from your parents, took a wrong turn, or lost track of your friends in a crowd? It can be scary to realize you're not sure where you are or how to get home again, and the same thing is true when it comes to our faith. See, you and I were created to be close to the God who made and loves us. But some of us don't know our Creator yet. And some of us know Jesus but we wander (or at least we feel) far away from Him. In this 4-week series, we'll explore a series of stories Jesus once told about things that were lost and then got found again. Through those stories, we'll discover that **Jesus notices you, values you, welcomes you back when you've strayed, and invites you to the party** when others come home.

THIS WEEK

THE BIG IDEA

Jesus invites you to the party.

THE BIBLE

Luke 15:1-2, 15:11-32; Titus 3:3-6;
Romans 12:15-16

- **Okay, be honest – have you thrown any tantrums recently? What were you so mad about?**
- **When someone else succeeds or gets celebrated, how do you usually feel? Why do you think you react the way you do?**
- **What does Jesus' story show us about God? What does it show us about ourselves and each other?**
- **Read Romans 12:15-16. What could the older brother and the Pharisees learn from these verses? What do you think you still need to learn?**
- **What are some specific ways our group could celebrate when "lost" people get "found"?**
- **What is something you can do this week to celebrate someone you've judged or been bitter toward?**