



SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

WEEK: 23

GOAL OF TONIGHT

Help students see how God's story intersects with their story and why that matters in their day-to-day life.

WELCOME & ICE BREAKER

What's a time where you said something or did something and immediately thought, woops, shouldn't have done that! (Leaders, if you can share first with a real lighthearted easy example of this, it will help get them thinking)

BIBLE VERSES

Matthew 26:26-28, Luke 23:33-34, Luke 23:39-43

QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS THE BIBLE VERSES

Tonight we're in week 3 of our "On the Road" series and we'll be looking at Jesus' road to the cross and the forgiveness that he extends to us. In large group, we'll be primarily focused on Jesus' forgiveness for us, but in your application time you could also bring some focus to forgiving others as well.

Read Matthew 26:26-28

1. If you were one of Jesus' friends at this meal, what would you have thought or felt as he said these things?
2. Has anyone heard this passage before and know what the thing is that Jesus is starting here? (Communion)
3. Why do you think we do communion where we eat a little wafer of bread and drink a little bit of juice? (We do it as a symbol to remind ourselves of Jesus' forgiveness for us)

Read Luke 23:33-34

4. How hard would it be for you to forgive people who made fun of you and hurt you badly like they did to Jesus?
5. Why do you think Jesus chose to ask God to forgive them?

Read Luke 23:39-43

6. Why do you think Jesus was willing to forgive this criminal so quickly?
7. Do you think Jesus forgives us this quickly? Why or why not?
8. As you read these passages, which example of Jesus' forgiveness stands out to you the most and why? His forgiveness of us by death on the cross, forgiveness of those who put him on the cross or his forgiveness of the criminal next to him?
9. Is there a time in your life that you were forgiven that was significant for you?

LEADER INSIGHT

Help students understand the depth of God's forgiveness. They may think forgiveness is really easy, and if that is the case, give some "middle school" examples where forgiveness would be challenging for them to help them understand how big this forgiveness is!

APPLICATION SUGGESTIONS

Pray as a group and spend a little time in silence to let your students pray and ask for God's forgiveness for something that they've done. You could also ask them to pray and think about who they might need to forgive and how they could do that.