

# WEEK 2

## SMALL GROUP GUIDE

F O R E V E R

Easter is the day we celebrate Jesus rising from the dead, but let's be honest — that's not always easy to believe. How does someone just stop being dead? Are we sure it happened? What if it didn't? And if it did, so what? What does it have to do with our lives today? Well, it turns out we're not the only ones who've asked questions like this. When Jesus died, even His closest friends and followers had questions, fears, and doubts. In this 2-week series, we'll see how Jesus shared the good news with His friends that He really was alive, and that nothing (not even death) could separate them from God's love — not ever. The same is true for us today and forever. Because the love of Jesus **is bigger than our doubts** and **gives us hope**.

### THIS WEEK

#### **THE BIG IDEA**

The life of Jesus gives us hope.

#### **THE BIBLE**

John 20:11-18, 24-29; Ephesians 1:18;  
Hebrews 4:14-16

- **When has your life been chaotic in a fun way? When has it been chaotic in a bad way?**
- **What are some reasons why a person might feel hopeless?**
- **Have you ever felt hopeless? If so, would anyone like to tell us about it?**
- **When Mary and Thomas felt hopeless, how did Jesus respond to them?**
- **Why do you think it's sometimes difficult to believe God is with us?**
- **Have you ever struggled to believe Jesus was with you? Do you still struggle to believe that?**
- **If a friend was feeling hopeless, what would you say in order to give them hope?**
- **What are some ways the love of Jesus can give us hope?**
- **Read Hebrews 4:14-16. Do you need to boldly ask God for help, either for your or for someone else? What will you ask for?**
- **This week, what's your next step? How can you find hope in Jesus for yourself or for others?**