

WEEK 2

SMALL GROUP GUIDE



If you've ever gone hiking before, especially in the winter, you know that "breaking trail" is something you do when you encounter deep snow that's tough to navigate. When that happens, one hiker usually goes ahead of their group and clears the way so others can follow behind more easily. A trail-breaker is someone who goes ahead, who makes a new way, and who invites others to follow along behind them. In so many ways, that's exactly what Jesus did for us. He broke a new trail just by existing, but he did so much more than that too. In this 6-week Easter series, we'll read the stories of Jesus breaking new trails as we discover that **Jesus never gives up on us, understands our pain, shows us love, is alive, can be trusted, and gives us a mission.**

THIS WEEK

THE BIG IDEA

Jesus understands our pain.

THE BIBLE

Matthew 27:27-44; Philippians 3:4-14;
Romans 6:6-7

- **Have you ever gotten an injury for a ridiculous reason? What happened?**
- **When you're in pain, what do you usually want other people to do for you?**
- **Have you ever felt like someone didn't understand the pain you were going through? What happened?**
- **On a scale of 1-5, how confident are you that Jesus understands what you're going through?**
- **Why do you think it's important for us to know Jesus understands our pain?**
- **Why do you think it's important for us to understand the pain Jesus went through?**
- **When you think about the different kinds of pain Jesus felt, what do you and He have in common?**
- **Read Romans 6:6-7. What do you think it means to be set free from sin? How does it happen?**
- **Are you hurting in any way right now (physically, emotionally, or spiritually)? Does anyone want to share more about what you're going through?**
- **If it's true Jesus understands what you're going through, what's one thing you can do this week to respond to that truth?**

ACTIVITY

Encourage each person to pray for one thing that has brought pain to them or someone they know. Have each person end their prayer with, "God, this is my prayer." Then, have the rest of the group respond with, "God, this is our prayer," to show they understand their pain.