

WEEK 1

DISCUSSION GUIDE

PLOT TWIST

Whether it's your favorite movie, book, or reality show, you know there's nothing like a good plot twist! Those storytelling surprises can keep us entertained, but they can do a lot more than that too. A good plot twist can make us rethink everything we thought we knew, see things in a brand new light, and get excited about what might happen next. That's never more true than in the most surprising and significant plot twist in history — Jesus' death and resurrection. In this six-week series, we'll look at six surprising stories from Jesus' death, resurrection, and last days on earth. These stories will show us that, when life takes unexpected turns, **God gives us help**. And even when we've messed up or are ready to give up, **Jesus never turns away from us**, but **gives us life, gives us hope, is with us**, and **gives us another chance**.

THIS WEEK

BIG IDEA

When we're in trouble, God gives us help.

BIBLE

John 11:45-57;
Psalm 46:1, 130:1-8

QUESTIONS

- What's one weird or funny reason you've needed to ask for help recently?
- When you need help, who do you usually reach out to, and for what reasons?
- What are some qualities a person would need to have before you'd turn to them for help?
- Why do you think people don't turn to God for help more often?
- Why do you think we're sometimes slow to ask for help, from either God or others? What do you think Jesus would say about that?
- What are some situations you might experience where you'd need God's help? How would you want God to help you in those situations?
- What are some other people or places we could go for help in those situations? Do you think God is okay with us getting help from them?
- Have you ever asked God for help but didn't get the response you were looking for? What happened?
- What are some possible reasons why God doesn't always help us in the ways we want or expect?
- Psalm 46:1. What's one reason you need God's help right now? How are you going to ask for it?



Provide students with paper or canvas and art supplies. Invite them to imagine their own metaphor for how God helps us, inspired by the metaphors in Psalm 130, and draw or paint that word or image. Take pictures of their art and share them.