

WEEK 4

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

BREAKING
NEWS

THE BIG IDEA

When I am lost, God guides me.

THE BIBLE

Ezekiel: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24;
(Psalm 95:1-7)

QUESTIONS

- What can you tell me about Ezekiel?
- What metaphor did God use to describe the people and their leaders?
- How were the leaders being poor shepherds?
- Let's look at Psalm 95:2. Why do you think we are instructed to "shout triumphantly to God?"
- What are some ways we might feel lost?
- When we are lost, what can we do?
- How can we make sure we are listening to God?

ACTIVITY

POLL | Have You Ever Lost Something?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For each of the questions below have kids respond with a smiley face for "no" or a frowny face for "yes" by tugging at the corners of their mouths.
- Have you ever lost something important to you?
- Who has ever lost their favorite toy?
- Have you ever lost your sweater or jacket?
- What about your socks? How many of you have one sock that does not have its match?
- Have you ever lost money?
- There's a reason why you were making frowny faces to answer yes. When we lose something, especially something valuable to us, it can make us sad. When we lose something important to us, we search high and low to find it. We do not stop until it is found!

RESPONSE | Feeling Lost

- Sometimes, when we talk about getting lost, we are talking about being physically lost, like when we are on a trip and don't know how to get where we are going.

- But sometimes, feeling lost doesn't have to do with where our bodies are. It has to do with how we are feeling. Maybe you feel like you are having trouble making friends in a new place. Or you are undecided in making a big decision. When we feel like we need someone to help us, we can feel lost.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Give the kids sticky notes and ask them to write down ways they might feel lost. If they want their note to be private, have them write on the sticky side, so that when they stick it up, the blank side will face up. Invite them to come place their sticky note anywhere on the wall.*
- Being lost is never a good feeling. But thankfully, God is always around to guide us if we ever feel lost!

REFLECTION | Tune In

- When there is breaking news online or on TV, people all over the world tune in to hear the information. God always has news to share with us if we give God time to speak. Tune in to God by being quiet and asking God to say something to you. It might not be through words that you hear. It could be feelings you experience. Or you might get a sense that you are loved. There are a lot of different things God can say to us in different ways.
- Let's practicing tuning in to God right now and let God speak to us.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play some soft music in the background. Ask the kids to bow their heads, close their eyes, and sit quietly for a few moments.*

MEMORY VERSE | Picture the Verse

- Let's pretend our memory verse is something happening on the news. Draw a picture that you think might show what is happening in our memory verse.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Give kids a copy of the memory verse printable. Provide crayons and instruct them to draw a picture to go along with the verse.*

ACTIVITY | Thankfulness Turkey

- This week we'll be celebrating Thanksgiving! There are so many things God has given us, and done for us, that we can be thankful for. Let's make a thankfulness turkey to say "Thanks!" to God.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Have the kids trace their hand on a piece of paper (younger ones may need help). After tracing it, fill in their outline to look like a turkey with feathers. On each of the feathers, write down one thing you are thankful for.*

