



# SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE

## Famous Last Words / Week 4

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

## LEADER PREP

### BOTTOM LINE

Because of Jesus, we can be close to God.

### SCRIPTURE

*"It is finished!" Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit (John 19:30b NLT).*

*"Then Jesus uttered another loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain in the sanctuary of the Temple was torn in two, from top to bottom" (Mark 15:37-38 NLT).*

### GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To help students recognize what Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection really means for them personally.

### THINK ABOUT THIS

Leaders—at this phase, students have a variety of responses to the crucifixion story. Some feel tremendous guilt and others feel absolutely nothing. Our job as leaders is help students, however they feel, connect Jesus' sacrifice to His desire for a relationship with them AND lead them toward their next steps.

## CONVERSATION GUIDE

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Did your family have any Easter traditions growing up? If so, what were they?
2. How is Easter different for you now from when you were in elementary school?
3. Read Mark 15:37-38. The curtain in the temple was a way to keep some people "out" or far away from God. What are some ways we sometimes do that in today's society?
4. Why do you think the curtain in the Temple tearing in two was such a significant moment for people who had grown up in the Temple system at that time?
5. Read Matthew 27:32-61. What do you think Jesus' friends were feeling in this moment?
6. Read Matthew 28:1-10. What does this mean for everyone? What does this mean for me?

### TRY THIS

Leaders—just like every other relationship in our lives, a relationship with Jesus has a starting point. For some of your students, today might be the day they start that relationship. Some of your other students may have started this relationship a long time ago. Based on what you know about the students in your group, lead your students through these conversations:

### FOR NEW BELIEVERS

Students probably won't approach you and ask you to walk them through this process, so be sure to offer them an invitation to begin a relationship with Jesus. Depending on your faith tradition, leading students through this process might look different. The attached Salvation Conversation Guide can help as you lead your students through this conversation.

### FOR THOSE WHO ALREADY BELIEVE

For students who have believed for a long time, ask them how their life would look and feel different if they consistently remembered that there's nothing they can do to be separated from God.

### FOR THOSE WHO DON'T BELIEVE

If there are students in your group who do not believe, remind them that they don't have to *believe* in order to *belong*. This is also a great opportunity to let these students know that the crucifixion story also applies to them. The Gospel message is all-inclusive.