

# WEEK 3

## SMALL GROUP GUIDE



### BIG IDEA

We can choose Jesus.

### BIBLE

#### Jesus Before Pilate

Mark 15:1-15; Jeremiah  
31:31-34

### ABOUT THIS WEEK

When everything around you feels dark, it's not always easy to see what's right—but that's when the light matters most.

This week, Jesus stands before Pilate while people choose to set someone else free instead of him. Even in that dark moment, Jesus stays true to who he is. When we want to follow the light instead of the crowd, **we can choose Jesus.**

### MEMORY VERSE

"The Lord is my light and my salvation — whom shall I fear?" — Psalm 27:1a (NIV)



## DISCUSSION

### BIBLE QUESTIONS

- **Who did the religious leaders hand Jesus over to so that he could be put on trial?** Pilate
- **What choice did Pilate give to the crowd?** The choice was to have Jesus or Barabbas released.
- **Why do you think they chose Barabbas?** Possible answers: They went along with what everyone else was saying, they were confused, they didn't really know Jesus, or they were disappointed Jesus was not the king they thought he was.
- **Read Jeremiah 31:33–34. What is the covenant, or promise, God is making with the Israelites (and with us)?** They will always be God's people, and God will forgive their sins.

### APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- **Have you ever made a choice that you knew wasn't Jesus' way? What happened?**
- **What can you do to remind yourself to choose Jesus the next time you are faced with a similar choice?**
- **How can we help each other to choose Jesus?**

## ACTIVITY

### WHAT TO DO



Give everyone a piece of transparency film or another type of sturdy plastic cut into a circle, slightly larger than the opening of a cardboard tube. Have kids write "Jesus" on the paper and attach it to the end of a cardboard tube using plastic wrap and rubber bands. Shine a flashlight or phone light through the tube and project the word onto a flat surface. Provide markers and stickers for them to decorate the cardboard tube. Scan QR code to see how it works.

### WHAT TO SAY

**We might not always notice it, but there are many times when we have to choose between what pleases God and what doesn't. Whenever that happens, we can shine Jesus bright and remember that in any situation, we can choose Jesus!**