



## Part 3:

### **Big Idea**

This week, we discussed how to effectively share our faith with others. This is a great topic for us to learn more about, because we are God's plan - to share His love with the world. However, it's becoming more and more difficult to tell others about our faith in an increasingly skeptical world – so how do we share in a way that people will receive? First, we must connect with people. People don't care what we know – they just want to know that we care about them. If we correct people before we connect with them, our efforts will be ineffective and can potentially be more hurtful than helpful. Next, we need to share our story with people. Evangelism is not telling people what they need to do – it's telling them what God has done in you. And finally, we simply need to invite people to a place where they can experience God, because they don't need another doctrinal argument – they need to encounter Jesus. As people encounter His presence, God will help them change any incorrect ideas they have developed about Him and allow them to see Him as He really is: a free gift. He doesn't require a lot of us, He's not far away. He is close, He wants us, and He gives Himself freely to us. This is what people need to know about our God.

*“Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.”*  
– 1 Peter 3:15 (NIV)

### **Discussion Questions**

- Talk about the sequence of events leading up to the moment you accepted Jesus as your Savior. Who introduced you to God? What kind of false perceptions did you have of God that changed when you encountered His presence?
- Have each person in the group give their two minute testimony to the group. As everyone shares their testimony, be sure to point out God's role in each story.
- Talk about some of the people in your life with whom you could share your story and invite to church. How would you tailor the sharing of your story where the people involved might have different levels of belief?

### **Prayer Focus**

Ask God to give you boldness when it comes to sharing your faith. Ask Him to help you accurately share the good things He has done in your life when given the opportunity. And ask for opportunities, that God would carve out moments in your day when you can share the love of Jesus with others.

### **Next Step**

Have your group think about the aspects of their stories that they want to share with others then ask them to write them down. Encourage them to share their stories with those in their sphere of influence as well and invite them to attend a service. At the Movies is coming up soon, and it's a perfect time to invite a friend.

### **Leader Tip**

Create a group roster with everyone's name and contact information, so you can easily contact your group throughout the semester.