

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Asking for a Friend - Week 1



CONNECT

Spend some time checking in. What are highs and lows since you last met? How can your group members pray for and support each other this week?

GROW

- Have you ever had a question about faith that you didn't feel free to ask? Why was that? Why do you think it's important to be honest about our questions with faith?
- Have you ever asked the question, "Why do bad things happen to good people?" What was the context? When has the idea that "good things happen to good people" been challenged in your life?
- Rather than a God who simply controls everything, what does it mean that God would trust you to make decisions? Have you ever
- Read Luke 7 and Romans 8 (back). How do you feel knowing that God never avoids our reality, but instead enters into it?

PRAY

God, you gave us the gifts of questions. Help us to use our minds to learn, discern, and grow deeper in faith in you. Amen.



BIBLE READINGS

Luke 7:1-6, 11-13, 18-19

1 When Jesus had finished saying all this to the people who were listening, he entered Capernaum. **2** There a centurion's servant, whom his master valued highly, was sick and about to die. **3** The centurion heard of Jesus and sent some elders of the Jews to him, asking him to come and heal his servant. **4** When they came to Jesus, they pleaded earnestly with him, "This man deserves to have you do this, **5** because he loves our nation and has built our synagogue." **6** So Jesus went with them.

He was not far from the house when the centurion sent friends to say to him: "Lord, don't trouble yourself, for I do not deserve to have you come under my roof.

11 Soon afterward, Jesus went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went along with him. **12** As he approached the town gate, a dead person was being carried out—the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the town was with her. **13** When the Lord saw her, his heart went out to her and he said, "Don't cry."

18 John's disciples told him about all these things. Calling two of them, **19** he sent them to the Lord to ask, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?"

Romans 8:31, 38-39

31 What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, **39** neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

