

SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE

And It Was Good / Week 2

BEFORE GROUP

BOTTOM LINE

God is working with you when you choose to do good work.

SCRIPTURE

Daniel 3:24-27 NIV Psalm 139:24a NIV

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To encourage students to choose how they respond when they see or experience injustice.

THINK ABOUT THIS

Be prepared this week to have students open up about difficult injustices they've experienced. While you may know about some of these, this could be the first time some high schoolers share about what they've gone through. Injustices like racism, poverty, abuse, discrimination, and more may be mentioned. How you respond to what they share is critical, so take a moment to pause and consider your words carefully. Create a safe space for everyone in your group by handling the emotions and experiences brought up in a healthy, helpful way. Be quick to acknowledge the courage it takes to open up and share honestly. Affirm that what they're experiencing is wrong, and offer them the chance to speak about how you can help or support them. Then, actually do it! Be someone who is willing to step into the fire of what they're facing alongside them. Someone who gets into the flames with your students and stays there until the work is done. Of course, if something is shared that brings to light a dangerous or harmful situation, take it to your Ministry Leader for further help and action as soon as possible.

This guide is a suggestion, not a formula. Adjust the content as needed, and don't feel like you need to complete everything listed.

DURING GROUP

DISCUSS THIS

- 1. What's an example of an injustice a high schooler might know about or experience?
- 2. How might experiencing an injustice like this make someone feel?
- 3. *Upperclassmen Question:* How have you seen injustices impact people throughout your years of high school?
- 4. If you're comfortable, share about an injustice you've experienced in your own life. What's one thing you wish people knew or understood about what you've experienced?
- 5. Does knowing that God showed up for the 3 friends in the furnace impact the way you feel about where God is in your own injustice? Why or why not?
- 6. What would change about the way you live your day-to-day life if you decided to be intentional about helping people who are facing injustice?
- 7. What's one way we can...
 - a. Ask for help if we're experiencing injustice?
 - b. Step up to support those around us who are experiencing injustice?

TRY THIS

As you talk about the potential injustices your students are experiencing or witnessing, be sure to pray for them specifically. You can do this collectively as a group and privately on your own time this week. The simple yet powerful act of praying for God's good work to be evident in the lives of your students is a great way to model the importance of prayer—which is something your high schoolers can do to support each other when they're facing injustice.