

WEEK 2

DISCUSSION GUIDE

ON THE
FLIP
SIDE

When Jesus was on earth, he wasn't exactly known for telling people what they wanted to hear. Jesus' message was unlike any message people had ever heard before. He didn't give shallow motivational speeches or feel-good sermons. He didn't recycle the same messages other religious leaders were teaching. He flipped people's ideas about God, the world, and themselves completely upside down — usually in uncomfortable ways. And that's always how God's words have worked! In this four-week series, we'll compare Jesus' words in the Gospels with the words of the Old Testament prophets to see how God's words have always challenged our understanding of what's wrong or right, good or bad, and just or unjust. We'll talk about how, both then and now, God flips our **assumptions about who God values**, our **definition of righteousness**, our **understanding of what's good enough**, and our **definition of justice**.

THIS WEEK

BIG IDEA

God flips our definition of righteousness.

BIBLE

Isaiah 58:1-9; Matthew 22:36-40;
1 Corinthians 13:1-3

QUESTIONS

- **What's a word or phrase we use today that our grandparents would definitely have trouble defining?**
- **What are some hard-to-define words you might hear at church or read in the Bible? (Anyone want to try to define any of them?)**
- **When the Bible tells us to be "righteous," what do you think most people assume that means?**
- **Do you think being "righteous" is different from being "religious"? Why or why not?**
- **What would you say "righteousness" means to God? What would you say it doesn't mean to God?**
- **Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-3. What are some ways a person might try to do what's "righteous," but fail to be loving?**
- **Have you ever thought God's love for you was connected to your ability to be more "righteous"? Do you still think that's true? Why or why not?**
- **Which is more difficult for you right now: loving God or loving others? What's making that so difficult?**
- **This week, what's one way you want to love God better? How can we help?**
- **This week, what's one way you want to love someone else better? How can we help?**