

WEEK 4

SMALL GROUP GUIDE



Have you ever wished you had a little bit more power — or influence — or control? Whether you dream about ruling the world or just wish you could get a little respect once in a while, the desire to be in charge is something we've all experienced. But in this 4-week series, we'll hear about a few kings from the Bible whose stories show us power isn't always easy to yield. Through their failures and successes, we'll discover that **when you make mistakes**, God can help make things right; **when you think you know best**, be humble instead; **when you're not sure who to listen to**, ask God for guidance; and **when obedience is difficult**, stay close to Jesus.

THIS WEEK

THE BIG IDEA

When obedience is difficult,
stay close to Jesus.

THE BIBLE

II Samuel 7:8-13; John 6:50-66, 14:23

- **When you play a game, do you prefer to follow the instructions or make up your own?**
- **What would the world be like if no one followed directions?**
- **Talk about a time when you experienced consequences because you didn't follow instructions or disobeyed an authority figure. What happened?**
- **How do you know when an authority figure or the instructions they give you are worth obeying?**
- **How is Jesus like a king? What makes Jesus different from other kings?**
- **Why do you think it was difficult for people to obey Jesus when he was on earth? Why is it difficult for people to obey Jesus now?**
- **What's one area of your life where you struggle to obey Jesus? Why is that so difficult for you?**
- **Even when obeying Jesus is difficult, why is it still worth it?**
- **Read John 14:23. How can staying close to Jesus help us to be more obedient? How can being obedient help us stay close to Jesus?**
- **What's one step you can take this week to stay close to Jesus?**