

WEEK 1

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

BACK TO THE FUTURE

Whether it's to stop yourself from saying something stupid, or see where you'll be in 10 years, or experience your favorite moment in history firsthand, we all wish we had a time machine sometimes, right? While time machines might not actually exist, the Bible can sometimes feel a little bit like a time machine. It's the story of the God who exists outside of time and had a plan to save the world before time even existed. God's plan was fulfilled through Jesus 2,000 years ago, but prophets like Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Amos left us hints about God's plan hundreds of years before that. So what was that plan? In this 4-week series, we'll discover that **Jesus' mission was to set people free and rebuild what has been destroyed** — and we can join Him on that mission, in part, by **doing justice** and **remembering** all God has done.

THIS WEEK

THE BIG IDEA

Jesus' mission was to set people free.

THE BIBLE

Luke 4:14-21; Isaiah 61:1-2;
John 1:1

- If time travel were a thing, would you rather head to the past or the future? Why?
- Have you ever been impacted by a quote from the past? Tell us about it!
- If the Bible was written so long ago, why do you think we still read, study, and apply it to our lives today?
- Why do you think it took so long for Jesus to arrive, grow up, and begin His ministry? What might God's timeline tell us about what God is like?
- Read John 1:1. Why is it important to know Jesus existed before He came to earth as a baby?
- In what ways did people misunderstand Jesus' mission on earth? What was His mission?
- Has Jesus ever set you free from something? If so, tell us about it.
- How can you and I help people who are held captive by their sin and brokenness find freedom in Jesus?
- How might our love for Jesus move us to help people who are held captive by injustice and oppression find freedom?
- What's one way you've felt moved to join Jesus on His mission of setting people free? What are you going to do about it?

ACTIVITY

Ask everyone to share which cause they committed to researching this week. Connect anyone who committed to learning about the same cause. Then pair up and spend time helping each other research your causes together.