

WEEK 1

SMALL GROUP GUIDE



Have you ever been hurt so badly by someone that you desperately wanted revenge? When we're treated cruelly or unfairly, it's natural to want justice. But what does "justice" really mean? Is it only about handing out consequences and punishment to the people who have wronged us? Or could it be about something more? How do we balance forgiveness and grace with truth and consequences? There's someone in the Old Testament of the Bible whose life has a lot to teach us about justice. In this 4-week series, the story of Joseph will help us see that **justice is love in action** and that, when we're wronged by others, we can **hold on to hope**, trust that **integrity can withstand injustice**, and learn to practice justice that **restores what's broken**.

THIS WEEK

THE BIG IDEA

Justice is love in action.

THE BIBLE

Genesis 37:1-11; I Corinthians 13:1-7

- **What's your favorite fictional love story and why?**
- **If love is a combination of feelings, words, and actions, which do you think is least important and why? Which is most important?**
- **Who is someone who makes you feel loved? How do they make you feel that way?**
- **Why do you think the people we love most are sometimes the people we hurt most?**
- **In Joseph's family, who hurt who and how?**
- **In your own words, what is love? What is justice?**
- **What do you think love and justice have to do with each other?**
- **Re-read I Corinthians 13:1-7. Using the key words in this passage, in what ways do you sometimes struggle to show love at home? In your friendships? To people you don't know?**
- **What obstacles might you face when trying to love those people with your actions?**
- **This week, where do you want to put more love into action: at home, in your friendships, or in the world? How will you do that?**