



# SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE

Never Give Up / Week 2

## BEFORE GROUP

### BOTTOM LINE

Never give up on God.

### SCRIPTURE

*I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” (John 16:33 NIV)*

### GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To encourage students to find hope in what's true about God and choose to stay committed to following Jesus even when life gets tough.

### THINK ABOUT THIS

At this phase, teenagers think like philosophers—meaning they want to make meaning of their world and work to understand why things happen. As students process tough times, try not to make God the reason WHY tough times happen. Don't make promises that may not come true. If a student is in the middle of a tough situation, as tempting as it may be to try to tie a bow on their circumstances, sometimes the truest and the best thing we can offer our students is our empathy, presence, and a reminder that God is with them no matter what they are facing.

*Create meaningful conversations. Adjust the questions as needed, and don't feel like you need to answer all of them.*

## DURING GROUP

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. On a scale of 1 to 10, how much did the way we talked about God today relate to what you think about God when you're facing hard things?
2. **Upperclassmen Question:** Why do you think some people tend to give up on God when facing difficult circumstances or challenges?
3. Why do you think some people feel like God has given up on them?
4. In your own words, what does it mean to “take heart”?
5. Have you ever wanted to give up on God? What has kept you from giving up on God?
6. What kinds of things do you think Jesus has overcome in *the* world?
7. What might knowing that mean for *your* world?
8. What might choosing not to give up on God add to your life?
9. How can choosing to never give up on God help you build resilience in your faith?

### TRY THIS

Leaders, this week, text your group John 16:33a and let them know there is always hope for whatever they may face in life.