

## SERIES OVERVIEW

The Bible can be somewhat overwhelming for middle school students. How do I read it? How do I understand it? What do I do with what I read? These are all questions we will address as we try to make this *long story short*.

## BOTTOM LINE

You can know Jesus today!

## SCRIPTURE

John 6:35 (NIV)

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

*Small Group Leaders, use the questions below to guide your conversation.*

### CONVERSATION STARTERS

- What are some ways we stay in contact with people today?
- Which modern way(s) do we wish we could use to talk to Jesus?

### EXPLORE THE BIBLE

- When Jesus came to earth, he split history in half! What does that tell us about him? (*He was a real person. He is important. I should pay attention to what he said and did.*)
- What do we have that helps us know Jesus better? (*His life story and words*)
- Pull out your Bible and find John 6:35. Someone read Jesus's words out loud.
- **What does Jesus mean?**  
*To help them think critically:* What is bread? What does bread do? What do you think Jesus meant when he said *bread of life*? What might Jesus do to be the Bread of Life? Do you think he literally means you won't be hungry or thirsty? If not, what might the deeper meaning be?
- **What can I do differently?**  
*To help them think critically:* If Jesus gives us what we need to do life, what can you do differently? Is there anything you can ask him for? Is there a different way for you to talk with him? Can you trust him differently? Would you worry less?

### READING PLAN

- *Pass out the Bible Reading Plan. Have students find each Scripture passage for that week in their Bible. Use the sticky notes to bookmark each passage for easy finding.*
- What day and time do you want to read the Bible this week? How can you remember?
- If you read last week, do you have any tips for the rest of the group?

**LEADERS** – Be present with your students on this Bible reading journey! Here are some ways you can be present: Text them Monday to remind them to read. On Wednesday, ask what they're learning or if you can help. On Saturday, share what you're learning!