

SALVATION

CONVERSATION GUIDE FOR STUDENTS

There may be one word that best describes teenagers and the phase they're in right now: ownership. They're looking at the world around them and the things they've inherited from their family—the traditions, morals, values, and faith. And they're making decisions about whether what they've observed is something they want for themselves. The decisions that students make now about salvation and a relationship with Jesus carry a lot of weight because they're old enough to understand what that means for their future. The best thing for a student to understand at this point in their lives is that *God is for them*. And that, in all things, His grace is real, and it covers all of their sin—past, present, and future.

WHAT TO SAY:

GOD LOVES YOU

- You were made in the image of God. God sees you, He accepts you, and He loves you.
- But we're broken. We behave in a way that's harmful to ourselves and separates us from God. That's called sin. Sin convinces us to focus on ourselves—that we matter most and we know best. While God isn't mad at us, He does know our sin will hurt us—it harms how we understand ourselves, how we treat others, and how we view Him.
- Our sin keeps us from seeing what's true about God, ourselves, and others. Sin convinces us that we know best, that God is against us, and that we matter more than those around us. Ultimately, sin keeps us from God Himself.
- **ASK:** How have you seen sin hurt you? How have you seen sin hurt others? What is the biggest problem of sin?

GOD IS FOR YOU

- God knew our sin would make us want to hide from Him and look out only for our best interest with no regard for others.
- God also knew that when we sin, we'd think God would want to come after us to punish us. And that we'd be tempted to distance ourselves from Him to avoid His punishment. But God isn't interested in punishing our sin as revenge. Instead, He wants to free us to live for something better.
- To prove how committed God was to life with us and for us, God sent His Son, Jesus, to go to the greatest length possible to demonstrate His love. Jesus died on the cross for us to show us God is for us. Jesus paid the price of our sin with His death.

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