

## BIG IDEA

**Don't miss God's work to reach you because of your work to reach Him.**

## WHAT DOES GOD WANT ME TO KNOW?

Share a story about a time you encountered God in an unexpected way.

**Read Acts 22:1-22.** How would you retell this story?

Listen to the way *The Message* paraphrases the beginning of this passage. How does this impact your understanding of Paul's testimony?

**Read Philippians 3:3-14.** How does Paul's message exemplify this week's big idea? Support your answer.

## WHAT IS MY INITIAL REACTION?

Can you relate to Paul in any way? Explain.

Are you someone who tends to "work" to reach God?

Do you ever feel spiritual guilt or spiritual exhaustion? What might be the cause(s) of these kinds of feelings?

**Read Ephesians 2:1-10.** How does this passage challenge you? How does it encourage you?

## WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?

**Read Philippians 2:1-13.** How does this passage help you understand the difference between working to earn God's love and responding to the love God has worked so hard to show you?

How does your understanding of this concept impact your relationships with others?

In what ways are you currently "working out your own salvation?"

Where is God asking you to **stop** working to get to him? Where is he asking you to **start** working out your own salvation?

How can you grow in gratitude toward Jesus this week?

