

WEEK 2

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

LIFELINES

Do you have any friendships you can really count on – the kind of friendships you might call your "lifelines?" God designed us to have friendships we can trust, but God also knew we'd need some help figuring out how to build friendships that are lifelines for each other. In this 4-week series, we'll look at the kind of friendship Jesus models for us: friendship that gives us **a place to be real**, gives us **a chance to grow**, gives us **a group when we feel alone**, and can even **change the world**.

THIS WEEK

THE BIG IDEA

Godly friendships help you grow.

THE BIBLE

Luke 10:38-42; Ephesians 5:1-2;
Proverbs 27:17

- **If you thought a friend might need to be confronted about their behavior, would you be more likely to say something or stay quiet? What are the pros and cons of both approaches?**
- **In the story we heard today, how do you think you would have felt or reacted if you were Martha?**
- **What did you notice about the way Jesus helped Martha grow?**
- **Why do you think it's so difficult to hear others tell us about the ways we need to grow?**
- **Why do you think it's so difficult to talk to our friends about the ways they might need to grow?**
- **Has a friend ever confronted you, but badly? What happened and why didn't it go well?**
- **What is one area of your life that is better today because someone helped you grow? Who was that person and how did they help you grow?**
- **How can we become the kind of friends who help each other grow?**
- **Read Proverbs 27:17. What's one way you'd like to see your friendships sharpen each other? How would you like to see this group to sharpen each other?**
- **What's one thing you can do this week to . . .**
 - grow in friendship with God?**
 - help a friend grow?**
 - invite your friends to help you grow?**