



SERIES BIG IDEA

Conversations can help us understand the many facets of a tough topic, which can lead to us better understand the heart of God as we seek to help others find their way back to him.

SCRIPTURE

Deuteronomy 10:17–19: *“For the Lord your God is the God of gods and Lord of lords. He is the great God, the mighty and awesome God, who shows no partiality and cannot be bribed. He ensures that orphans and widows receive justice. He shows love to the foreigners living among you and gives them food and clothing. So you, too, must show love to foreigners, for you yourselves were once foreigners in the land of Egypt.”*

Psalms 146: *Praise the Lord! Let all that I am praise the Lord. I will praise the Lord as long as I live. I will sing praises to my God with my dying breath. Don't put your confidence in powerful people; there is no help for you there. When they breathe their last, they return to the earth, and all their plans die with them. But joyful are those who have the God of Israel as their helper, whose hope is in the Lord their God. He made heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them. He keeps every promise forever. He gives justice to the oppressed and food to the hungry. The Lord frees the prisoners. The Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are weighed down. The Lord loves the godly. The Lord protects the foreigners among us. He cares for the orphans and widows, but he frustrates the plans of the wicked. The Lord will reign forever. He will be your God, O Jerusalem, throughout the generations. Praise the Lord!*

ICE BREAKER AND OPENING THOUGHT

1. When have you experienced being the “new person”—like starting at a new school or new job, or moving to a new neighborhood? What was the experience like?
2. What might have helped make your transition easier?

BIBLE DISCUSSION

3. Read Psalm 146 and Deuteronomy 10:17-19. What statements stand out to you? Why?
4. What question(s) do these passages raise for you?
4. What picture of God emerges from these texts?
5. Look at a few other passages of Scripture. Exodus 22:21; Exodus 23:9; Deuteronomy. 23:7; Deuteronomy 24:19-22; Leviticus 19:34; Ezekiel 47:22. What are your impressions after reading these?

LIFE APPLICATION

6. What are some of the concerns people express about welcoming refugees?
7. Check out the following webpage on refugees: <https://wewelcomerefugees.com/faq/>. What was new information for you? How have your thoughts shifted on this topic (if at all)?
8. What are some of the misconceptions about refugees?
9. What are some possible ways the church might be able to help refugees?

CHALLENGE

Jesus said we are the light of the world—the church (Matthew 5:14). We can start by looking thoroughly at what God's Word says about refugees. Then find ways you can engage locally. (One option is to get involved with World Relief.) Finally, keep in mind that this is a global issue. The vast majority of refugees will never enter the US, but they still need support. How might God be asking you to help refugees—even in the midst of fears or concerns you may have? How might God be asking your group to get involved?