

# From the Garden

Young people ask hard questions. They wonder about their identity and purpose. They wonder what they should do and how they should make decisions. They wonder if their lives are on track. Young people are looking for guidance and meaning, even if they don't know it and can't articulate it. In this introductory series, *From the Garden*, we address these longings for meaning by turning to our creator and our creation. Who is God? Who are we? And what was life meant to be?

In Lesson One, **The Constant Gardener**, we begin with the most important part of our identity and world, our creator. Here we contrast our culture's stereotypes of God as a lonely guy in the sky with the Bible's image of God as a relational and dynamic being. This concept of God's relational nature undergirds all of the other lessons in this resource and our connection to community.

In Lesson Two, **Home in the Garden**, we explore God's original design for the world. We were created by a relational God in relationship to God, each other, and nature. What does that look like and what does that mean for us now?

In Lesson Three, **Together in the Garden**, we examine relationships. Are they spiritual? Can they be spiritual? What are we doing to bring us closer together or push us further apart?

Lesson Four, **From the Garden to the Wilderness**, transitions us from God's original intent for creation to our current wanderings in the wilderness. How did we go off track and what has happened as a result? Does God still care for a broken world?