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*Digging Deeper* this week...

**BiG iDEa:** God invites me to grow up and show up.

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Set aside some time throughout this week to read and reflect on what God's word says on the subject from the Bible passages below. Some questions are provided for you or a small group of friends to provide focus for your reflection. Before you start: Breathe, pray, ask the Holy Spirit for help.

### **Identify**

What is more discouraging to you: fear of what God wants, comparison to others or lack of progress in your life? Why?

### **Read**

*Scriptures to grow by...* Haggai 2:1-9, Ezra 4-5, Matthew 18:1-4, 6:33, James 1:2-5, Ecclesiastes 9:10, Galatians 6:9, 14-18, 1 Corinthians 3:16, 1 John 4:4, Ephesians 2:19-22, 3:19.

### **Reflect**

1. What words, phrases or ideas stand out to you from the Bible readings you read today? What do you think keeps you from being strong to get past discouragement?
2. How do these words, phrases or ideas connect with your everyday life? What do they lead you to think or to do?
3. On Sunday Doug said "the glow easily rubs off in the grind." What have you started and maybe stopped or paused that God has called you to? How will you press on with God to be strong and do the work of laying just one more stone? Explain.

### **Respond**

*Moving forward...*

Take some time each day this week to ask the Holy Spirit to help you identify what you might need to unlearn in order to trust Him more fully. Then invite God to show you how He wants to make you strong to face what is holding you back from doing the work He is calling you to do. Write down what you think God is telling you. Then, consider share your progress with a friend.