



REMEMBER

I have come so that they may have life and have it in abundance.
– John 10:10

READ

Sometimes, we don't really know what's good for us.

Growing up, I didn't think I needed much sleep. Nap time meant less playtime. So when my parents told me to lay down for a nap, I thought, *They just don't want me to have fun*. But on days when I didn't get my nap, I ended up tired, grouchy, and overall, not a happy camper! I came to realize my parents knew what was good for me: I needed sleep.

Has something like that ever happened to you? Maybe, despite your parents' warnings, you've eaten too many sweets? And while they were so good, later, your tummy started hurting!

Growing up, Augustine thought he knew what was good for himself. If he could win enough, be popular enough, or gather up all the fun things in life—he'd be happy. But when Augustine got everything he wanted, he found himself miserable. He discovered the hard way that he couldn't find true happiness his way because he was created to live God's way.

Augustine found out that trusting in himself doesn't work. Trusting in Jesus and following him is the only way to the good life. The good life Jesus gives us may not be filled with things we think will make us happy like sweets or endless play times. But in Jesus's good life, we have everything we need when we are satisfied in Him.

Following Jesus means admitting that we don't always know what's good for us but trusting that God does. And that's exactly why Jesus told us he came: so that we "may have life and have it in abundance." God's ways are always better than our ways.

THINK

1. Why did Augustine steal the pears?
2. Think about a time you did something wrong. What were your reasons for doing it?
3. What are some of the things that God used to lead Augustine to faith?
4. How does Augustine's story remind you of any of the stories from the Bible?
5. Augustine wrote a prayer that said, "You have made us for yourself, and our heart is restless until it rests in you." How might your heart rest in God?