

FAMILY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

GOD HAS MADE A GREAT MANY PROMISES. THEY ARE ALL "YES" BECAUSE OF WHAT CHRIST HAS DONE. SO THROUGH CHRIST WE SAY "AMEN." WE WANT GOD TO RECEIVE GLORY. – 2 CORINTHIANS 1:20

PROMISE OF PEACE

"I LEAVE YOU PEACE. MY PEACE I GIVE YOU. I DO NOT GIVE IT TO YOU AS THE WORLD DOES. SO DON'T LET YOUR HEARTS BE TROUBLED. DON'T BE AFRAID."

– JOHN 14:27

STORY: JESUS APPEARS TO DISCIPLES – JOHN 20:19–23

DISCUSS:

READ THE BIBLE STORY FROM JOHN 20 OR FROM YOUR FAVORITE STORY BIBLE. HAVE YOUR KIDS RETELL THE STORY IN THEIR OWN WORDS & ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS TOGETHER.

After Jesus died on the cross, His disciples were scared and confused. They gathered together in a room with the doors locked because they were afraid of the religious leaders. They didn't know what would happen next.

But then, something amazing happened. Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Jesus showed them His hands and His side so they would know it was really Him. The disciples were filled with joy because Jesus was alive! Then Jesus said again, "Peace be with you," and sent them out to share the good news with others. Jesus didn't wait until the disciples were brave to come near. He came to them in their fear and gave them His peace.

1. Why do you think the disciples were hiding behind locked doors?
2. What were the first words Jesus said to His disciples when He appeared to them?
3. How do you think the disciples felt when they realized Jesus was really alive?
4. What are some things that make you feel afraid, worried, or unsure?
5. How can remembering that Jesus is with us help us when we feel afraid?

BIG IDEA: GOD'S POWER IS MADE PERFECT IN WEAKNESS

DID YOU KNOW...? Did you know that the words Jesus said, "Peace be with you," were a common greeting in His day? But when Jesus said them after His resurrection, they meant even more! Jesus wasn't just saying "hello." He was showing His disciples that because He was alive, they could have real peace with God and courage even when they felt afraid. That same peace is for us too, and Jesus invites you to trust Him, come close to Him, and receive the peace only He can give.

SOMETHING TO NOTE!

When Jesus appears to His disciples, He does not begin with disappointment, correction, or frustration. These are the same disciples who had scattered, hidden, denied, doubted, and failed to understand what He had told them. Yet His first words to them are, "Peace be with you." This is more than a comforting greeting. It is a declaration of what His death and resurrection have made possible.

The peace Jesus brings is not simply the absence of hard things. It is the presence of the risen Christ with His people. The disciples' circumstances had not suddenly become easy or safe, but everything changed because Jesus was alive and standing among them. His wounds showed them that the price for peace had been paid, and His resurrection showed them that fear, sin, and death do not get the final word.

As you talk with your child, help them see that Jesus does not shame us for being afraid. He meets us in our fear and reminds us that He is near. The peace of Jesus gives us courage, not because we are strong on our own, but because He is alive, He is with us, and He sends us out with His Spirit.

PROMISES

PRAYER PROMPT:

As a family, talk about one thing that makes each person feel afraid, worried, or unsure. Then pray together, asking Jesus to help you remember that He is near.