

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 SUPPORT

"THE LORD YOUR GOD IS WITH YOU. HE IS THE MIGHTY WARRIOR WHO SAVES. HE WILL TAKE GREAT DELIGHT IN YOU.

POINT UP

POINT TO SELF

FLEX MUSCLES

POINT TO SELF & SMILE

IN HIS LOVE HE WILL NO LONGER PUNISH YOU. INSTEAD, HE WILL SING FOR JOY BECAUSE OF YOU."

HUG SELF

SHAKE HEAD "NO"

WAVE HANDS JOYFULLY

STORY: SIMON HELPS CARRY THE CROSS – LUKE 23:26

DISCUSS:

READ THE BIBLE STORY FROM LUKE 23 OR FROM YOUR FAVORITE STORY BIBLE. HAVE YOUR KIDS RETELL THE STORY IN THEIR OWN WORDS & ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS TOGETHER.

1. Why do you think Jesus needed help carrying the cross?
2. How do you think Simon felt when he was asked to help Jesus?
3. Who are some helpers God has put in your life when things feel heavy?
4. When have you helped someone else who needed support?
5. How does this story show that God gives us helpers when life feels heavy?

BIG IDEA: GOD GIVES US HELPERS WHEN LIFE FEELS HEAVY

DID YOU KNOW?

When Jesus was carrying the cross, He was walking along a road in Jerusalem called the Via Dolorosa, which means "The Way of Suffering." Historians believe this road was crowded, noisy, and full of people traveling in and out of the city. Because it was such a busy place, Roman soldiers could quickly pull someone—like Simon—out of the crowd to help. Simon wasn't planning to carry a cross that day... he may have just been passing through! But God used that unexpected moment to make Simon part of the most important story in history.

SOMETHING TO NOTE!

Jesus is fully God, but He was also fully human—which means He felt real pain, real weakness, and real tiredness on the way to the cross. When Jesus accepted Simon's help, it wasn't because He wasn't powerful enough; it was because He chose to experience what it's like to be human. This reminds us that needing help isn't a weakness—it's part of how God designed us. God created us to live in community, support one another, and share each other's burdens. So when we ask for help or offer help, we're doing something that looks a lot like Jesus.

PRAYER PROMPT:

Take a moment to think about a time when life felt heavy and someone helped you. Think about the people God has placed in your life—family, friends, teachers, church members—who support you when you need it most.

Spend a few moments praying for and thanking God for those people. Ask God to show you how we can be helpers to others, just like Simon helped Jesus.

PROMISES