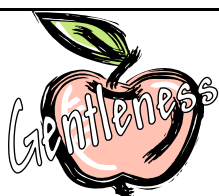
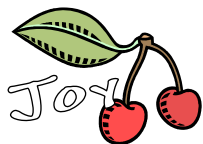


FAMILY MINISTRIES: AUGUST

THE TABLE: A CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

The Fruit of The Spirit



This month we are focusing on peace. The Bible tells us about a man, who despite his wealth, cannot do anything to save his dying son. So the man travels many miles to beg Jesus for help. Without even seeing the son, Jesus told the father that his son would be healed. The boy's father believed Jesus and knew that His word was true, and instantly the worry left.

There are so many things in this world that can create worry and fear, but we don't have to live our lives ruled by them. Jesus promises to give us peace. When we learn to trust in Him, to depend upon Him and His word, the Holy Spirit can fill us with a peace that passes understanding. When we recognize that

Jesus is the one in control and not us, we can be set free from worry and anxiety.

As a family, talk about the gift of peace. It is a hard concept for young children to understand, but focus on trusting Jesus when worried or upset. When we learn to trust God, those worries can be replaced by His peace. As a family pray together about events happening in your life. Take moments to really talk with your kids about what is happening. Talk with them about how God is making a difference in your life. Encourage your kids to turn to Jesus first.

Talk with you child about the Bible story this month: John 4:43-54.

"The Lord gives strength to this people;
the Lord blesses His people with peace."
Psalm 29:11



OBSERVATION QUESTIONS:

- ✦ What happened in the story?
- ✦ Who did the father go to see?
- ✦ What did Jesus say would happen?
- ✦ How did the father react to Jesus' words?



INTERPRETATION QUESTIONS:

- ✦ How would you have felt if you were the father . . .
- ✦ . . . before talking to Jesus? Why?
- ✦ . . . after talking to Jesus? Why?
- ✦ Why did the father believe Jesus' words?
- ✦ What would your reaction have been if you had observed this conversation?



APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

- ✦ What does this story tell us about the character of Jesus?
- ✦ How can this truth about Jesus help you not to worry as much?
- ✦ What is something you need to trust to Jesus or where you need peace?



PRAY WITH YOUR CHILD:

- ✦ Thank God that we can trust Jesus and His care.
- ✦ Ask Jesus to help you trust Him more and worry less.
- ✦ If your child has not received Christ, give them the opportunity.



HOME IDEAS

✝ Have a "Prayer Jar" (or call it whatever fits for you). When someone in the family has a worry, write down that worry on a piece of paper and put it in the jar. Pray together as a family about it. Now Jesus has that concern and we can be at peace.

✝ Go on a trust walk together with friends, siblings, or family members. One person is blindfolded and another person gives directions to guide them on a short walk. Talk about what it was like to trust each other.

✝ Curl up and read a good book together. Some suggestions include:

- Berenstein Bears Count their Blessings by Stan and Jan Berenstein
- Billy and Blaze by CW Anderson (old story, but a good one to talk about trust between two friends)
- Meet Kit by Valerie Tripp and Walter Rane

✝ Read and talk about Psalm 23.

✝ Draw or paint a picture to show how you feel knowing that Jesus wants to take away your worries.

✝ Visit a peaceful place for you and your family. Maybe it is a lake, forest, the beach or simply your backyard. Take sometime in quiet to think about God. If you have really little kids, teach them how to be quiet and listen. Ask them how they feel, how they see or feel God, or what it was like to be quiet.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

CHURCH CAMP-OUT - AUGUST 14-16

4TH FRIDAY WORSHIP @ STAFFORD - AUGUST 28

Contact Calyn Hauck, Director of Family Ministries for further information or to sign-up to help with Children's Ministries: calyn@haucks.us or 503-247-8447.



www.thetablepdx.com

SONGS TO SING

As you sing with your child, talk about how drawing close to Jesus helps us to grow in His image, allowing the fruits of the spirit to grow in us.



Peace Like a Rive

Verse 1

I've got peace like a river
I've got peace like a river
I've got peace like a river in my soul
(2 X's)

Verse 2

I've got joy like a fountain
I've got joy like a fountain
I've got joy like a fountain in my soul
(2 X's)

Verse 3

I've got love like an ocean
I've got love like an ocean
I've got love like an ocean in my soul
(2 X's)

It Is Well

It is well with my soul
It is well, it is well with my soul
Whatever my lot
Thou hast taught me to say
It is well, it is well with my soul

Verse 1

When peace like a river attendeth my way
When sorrows like sea billows roll
Whatever my lot, thou has taught me to say
It is well, it is well with my soul

Verse 2

My sin O the bliss of this glorious thought
My sin not in part, but the whole
Is nailed to the cross
And I bear it no more
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord O my soul

Verse 3

And the Lord hast the day
When thy faith shall be sight
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend
Even so, it is well with my soul

It is well, it is well with my soul
It is well, it is well with my soul, my soul, my soul