



## PEACE – WEEK 4

An untroubled heart  
that comes from trusting God



MISSIONS

***“I am leaving you with a gift – peace of mind and heart.  
And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give.  
So don’t be troubled or afraid.”  
John 14:27***

### PARENT DEVO

*(Parents, this is for you to do  
ahead of time as you prepare your  
hearts to lead your kids.)*

**READ** Acts 20:17-24 & John 16:33.  
How does Paul’s life show he believed  
the truth that Jesus spoke of in John?  
How do you think Paul’s friends felt as  
they heard this message from him?  
Where did Paul’s peace come from?  
Do you think this peace possible in  
your own life? Why?

**DID YOU KNOW?** Paul most likely  
wrote Philippians while under house  
arrest in Rome. He had visited Philippi  
on his 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> missionary journeys.  
Paul & Silas also spent a night in  
prison there (Acts 16) before going to  
Thessalonica.

**REFLECTION:** Phil 4:6-13. What in  
your life is a source of anxiousness?  
How can you pray with thanksgiving  
about it? Why is it easy to trust God in  
some circumstances but not in  
others? How can remembering the  
truth of John 16:33 help you have  
peace in both plenty and want?

**PRAY:** Thank God for over-coming  
the world & His peace that surpasses  
understanding. Pray for specific  
things that cause you to worry and  
hand them over to God. Thank Him  
for the times He gave you peace  
when you trusted Him.

### Finish Line:

**Trusting God gives us peace in any circumstance!**

### **MAIN SCRIPTURE:**

Acts 20:17-24  
Paul being persecuted

### **LESSON MATERIALS:**

- Bible
- Paper and something to write with
- Something to make a shield with

### **How to use this lesson:**

- Everything that is **bolded** is meant to be read out loud. The rest is either instructions, answers to questions or suggestions for supplies.
- The Finish Line is the key point for the lesson.
- Watermark Kids uses the New Living Translation (NLT) Bible. You can find this translation at [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com).

## Activity 1

**What do you know about Paul?** Answers will vary – used to be Saul but met Jesus on the road to Damascus, became a missionary and told everyone he could about Jesus, wrote a lot of the New Testament. **Do you think that Paul had a peaceful easy life? Let's read 2 Corinthians 11:23-27 to find out.**

**Was Paul's life easy? No! What were some of the trials and circumstances that Paul faced?** Beaten, stoned, shipwrecked, robbers, hunger, thirst, cold, etc. **Those are some pretty hard situations that Paul was in! Can you think of any circumstances or situations that might cause us to be anxious or not have peace?** Answers will vary, parents should share too. **Let's write these circumstances on some pieces of paper. Let's look at a story about how Paul trusted God and had peace in his circumstances.**

*Write these circumstances on different pieces of paper – you will use them for something later!*

**Our finish line for today says: Trusting God gives us peace in any circumstance. Whenever you are worried or anxious about what is going on around you, you can remember that God is good, He loves you, He never leaves you, and He is in control.**

## Storytime

Read **Acts 20:16-24** in the NLT Bible. Then discuss the following questions:

- **How do we know that Paul really trusted God?** He was doing the work that God asked Him to do even though he had to face many trials and hard circumstances (vs. 19); he was willing to go to Jerusalem even though the Holy Spirit told him that jail and suffering were waiting for him (vs. 22-23).
- **What was the work that Paul was doing for the Lord?** Sharing the Good News of Jesus! He was telling everyone he met to repent from sin, turn to God and have faith in Jesus!
- **Why do you think that Paul was able to have peace?** Because he trusted God!

## Activity 2

**Just like Paul, we can trust God and have peace in our circumstances. Where can we always look to remind us of who God is and why we can trust Him? The Bible! I have some verses we can read, and then we are going to play a game.**

*Spend a couple of minutes reading the following verses together. Each verse reminds us of at least one reason we can trust God – see if you can find them as a family!*

- Philippians 4:6-7 – Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank Him for all He has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.
- Isaiah 41:10 – Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be discouraged for, I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand.
- Psalms 27:1 – The Lord is my light and my salvation – so why should I be afraid? The Lord is my fortress, protecting me from danger, so why should I tremble?
- Psalms 56:4 – I praise God for what He has promised. I trust in God, so why should I be afraid? What can mere mortals do to me?

*Create a peace shield using materials around the house and add one or more of those verses to the shield. You can draw a shield on a piece of paper or have the kids create one using whatever you have available! Do you have a poster board, a cardboard box or a pillow? Get creative and have fun!*

**Remember all those situations we wrote down earlier? We are going to use them to test out those peace shields. I'm going to read them out loud to you. Then I want you to say the finish line: Trusting in God gives us peace in any circumstance! Then hold up your shield and block the circumstance from hitting you!** Hold up each sheet of paper, read the worry, have the kids say the finish line, crumple up the worry and throw it gently at the kids.

**Let's pray and ask God to help us trust that He loves us and is always in control, so we can have peace in any circumstance.**

**DEFINITION:**

**An untroubled** (slow “safe” motion) **heart** (palms over heart)  
**that comes from trusting** (“T” with arms) **God** (point up).

**MEMORY VERSE:**

**I am leaving you with a gift** (hands together, palms up, give from yourself) – **peace** (peace sign) **of mind** (point to head) **and heart** (palms over heart). **And the peace** (peace sign) **I give is a gift** (hands together, palms up, give from yourself) **the world cannot give** (shake head no, wave your finger). **So don't be troubled or afraid** (pretend to be scared).

**John 14:27**