



# A LIFE WORTH LIVING- PEACE

## Family Devotional/Adult & Teen Discussion Guide

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APRIL 29, 2018

**1. PRIMARY STATEMENT:** Everybody wants to be at peace - peace with God, with others, peace with whatever life throws at you. God wants that, too. He has peace that's beyond anything humans can find or cultivate, but it can only be experienced when we're submitted to His leadership.

## 2. DISCUSSION:

2 Thessalonians 3:16 [NLT]

*"Now may the Lord of peace himself give you his peace at all times and in every situation."*

The peace of God is different than a human emotion. Just like His contentment, it supersedes logic and circumstance, and works no matter what kind of storm is blowing around us.



Q. What's the greatest stress in your life right now? What situation brings the most anxiety?

Q. Have you tried just talking yourself out of stress/worry? How did that work for you?

Q. If you could hit a button and instantly relieve the stress from this situation, how would that impact your quality of life?

What other areas in your life might improve?

## 3. CHALLENGE:

Isaiah 26:3 [NLT]

*"You [God] will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you!"*

God's peace is perfect- it overcomes any stress or worry- but it's not a promise to every human. His peace comes with His presence, to those who trust Him and keep their thoughts fixed on Him. When we lean in close to our heavenly father, we can experience the peace of His protection- something truly supernatural.

Q. Think of your stressful situation again, is it easy or difficult to trust God to see you through, no matter the outcome?

Q. What steps could you take this week to keep your thoughts focused more on God your helper and less on the situation and the stress it brings?



## 4. PRAYER FOCUS

Take a few minutes as a family: thank God for His supernatural peace. Whatever is stressful to you, hand it over to Him. Ask the Holy Spirit to keep your thoughts focused on Him, and to bring, with His presence, perfect peace in every situation.



# “LESSONS FROM KING XERXES”

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APRIL 29, 2018

**1. POWER VERSE:** **Philippians 2:3** *“Don’t be selfish; don’t try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves.”*

**What’s Up: “Treat People Nicely – Don’t Be A Jerk!”**

**This week, we continue our series called, “You Only Live Once”, or “YOLO.” We’re learning some important lessons about making our lives count! Since we only live once, we need to make sure we do our very best to honor God with our life and remain faithful to Him.**

## 2. DISCUSSION:

- Q. What do you think the word “pride” means?
- Q. Have you ever met someone that was filled with pride?

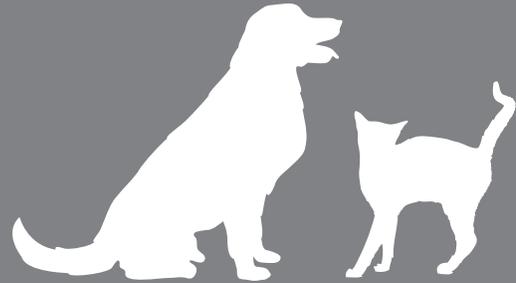


Nobody likes a jerk. They’re filled with pride, always get what they want, and treat others as less than themselves. As followers of Jesus, we need to avoid becoming a jerk.

In the Bible Story this week, we learned from King Xerxes how to NOT be a jerk. King Xerxes made a lot of terrible mistakes that made him a total jerk! We learned to avoid the mistakes King Xerxes made and be much better examples of what it means to be a follower of Jesus.

## 3. ACTIVITY:

- Q. Who in your life is a great example of kindness?
- Q. How can we avoid becoming prideful?
- Q. What are some things we can do to show kindness to others?



We need to do our very best to always be humble, to not get mad when we don’t get our way, and to treat people like they matter!



## 4. PRAYER FOCUS

**Pray for your children to avoid being a jerk. Pray that they would love and treat everyone with humility and kindness!**