

BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE®

SUMMER 2021

Unit 1, Session 2

CONNECTION POINT:

We need not fear because we are rich in God's grace.

THE BIBLE MEETS

LIFE: No one goes looking for persecution, but it happens—and it comes in many forms. From social rejection, legal actions, imprisonment, and even death, followers of Christ around the world suffer for their faith in Christ. Persecution is nothing new. In the first century, the church at Smyrna faced persecution for their belief in and loyalty to Jesus. As the Smyrna church learned, we can stand strong and fear nothing because of God's abundant grace to us.

LIVE IT OUT: Your student has been encouraged to take practical steps to take his or her faith and Live It Out.

FAMILY CONNECTION

Use these discussion starters to help foster a spiritual conversation with your family.

PRESCHOOL

Scripture: Mark 4:35-41

Live It Out: Read the Bible story to your child. Ask how Jesus helped His friends. Tell your child that Jesus is powerful and He can do many things.

Jesus sat in a boat and spoke to a large crowd of people. The people sat on the shore and listened to many stories that helped them learn about God.

Late that afternoon, Jesus said to His disciples, "Let's go across the lake." They left the crowd and sailed toward the other side.

Jesus went to the back of the boat so He could rest. He went to sleep on a cushion.

While Jesus was sleeping, a storm came up. Wind and waves rocked the boat. Water came into the boat. The disciples were afraid. They called, "Jesus! Wake up! We're in danger!"

Jesus stood up. He told the wind to stop blowing and the waves to be still. The wind stopped! The waves became calm and still! The disciples were surprised that Jesus had stopped the storm.

KIDS

Scripture: Mark 4:35-41

Live It Out: Help your child look in the Bible and find miracles that Jesus performed. Make a list of miracles and where they are found. Thank God for Jesus and the things He did.

At evening as the sun was setting, Jesus told His disciples, "Let us cross over to the other side of the sea." Jesus and His disciples got in a boat.

Suddenly a great windstorm arose on the water. The storm grew stronger; the waves grew higher.

The waves began crashing into the boat. The boat was swamped with water.

Jesus was in the boat—asleep on a cushion! The disciples woke Jesus up and said to Him, "Teacher, don't You care that we are going to drown?"

Jesus stood up. He said, "Silence! Be still!" The wind stopped. There was great calmness.

Jesus asked His disciples, "Why were you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?" They were still scared, and they asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the sea obey Him!"

STUDENTS

Scripture: Revelation 2:8-11

- What riches have you experienced because of your relationship with Christ?
- How do hardship and suffering strengthen our faith?
- How can God use our living faithfully through hardships to point others to Jesus?

Live It Out: When we are saved by God's grace, there is nothing that can change that. The church in Smyrna was mistreated in terrible ways, and we will be too. When we are faithful, even through difficult circumstances, we can know that God will reward our faithfulness.

Though we may be poor in this life, if we know Jesus, we are eternally rich. Challenge your family to make a list of all the ways you are rich because of God's grace in your life. Afterward, spend time in prayer thanking God for all of the blessings He has given you.