

HEAVEN TO EARTH

LESSON 2 // THE PEACE OF HEAVEN

Big Idea: Heaven is a place of peace. There are no disturbances, no fears and no worries there because heaven is ruled by the Prince of Peace.

To experience heaven's peace, you must remember that you have an ever-present Source of peace. Jesus is your peace and is always available. You also have divine resources to overcome the enemies of peace. In Christ you have everything you need to defeat anyone or anything that tries to rob your peace. Finally, it's important to remember that you're embraced by the God of peace in the midst of every storm. He loves you and holds you safely in the palm of His hand—where His peace always prevails.

Mark 4:38-41 (NIV) *Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?"³⁹ He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.⁴⁰ He said to his disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?"⁴¹ They were terrified and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!"*

Start Talking:

- Where is your favorite peaceful place? Why?
- When stress or tension is high, what is your go-to place (mentally or physically) to find calm?

Start Thinking:

- This weekend Pastor Dale shared that whatever we're facing, we must be sure to carry the promises of God. Why is this so vital when facing adversity and combating fear? Is there a promise in Scripture that you are regularly recalling as a source of encouragement?
- **Read Judges 7:7-8.** God made Gideon's army smaller before the battle began against the Midianites. God wanted Gideon to trust Him in the middle of adversity and to know that He would give him the victory. Share a time when you have experienced God's peace amid great adversity. What helped you to trust God in the face of fear?
- **Read Mark 4:35-41.** It can seem silly to us that the disciples were afraid of the storm even though Jesus was on board. We must remember that the fears that trouble us, never cause Jesus to fear. Have you struggled with some type of fear in your life? What can you learn from the disciples in this story and apply to your life?
- **Read 2 Thessalonians 3:16, Colossians 3:15 & Psalm 29:11.** What is one step that you can take this week to move towards resting and living in the peace God has for you?

Start Praying:

Ask group members to share fears that they may be combating during this season. Pray for one another boldly asking God to fill you with courage and peace. Proclaim the promises of God during your prayer and encourage one another this week to continue to press into truth.

Start Doing:

- Invite those in your group to prayerfully consider supporting outreach efforts at Church of the Redeemer. Support can be offered by volunteering, donating products, or offering financial support (for those that are able). For more information visit: <https://church-redeemer.org/ministries/outreach/covid-19>