

Family Devotional

From September 18, 2016

Read: Isaiah 35 In this passage the prophet Isaiah is encouraging God's people that even though things look bad right now, God is coming and will make all things right again. He uses a lot of imagery and action in this chapter. Listen to it once and then have everyone act it out as the reader reads through it again.

Reflect: What was Isaiah telling God's people would happen?

Do you think Isaiah was saying this just because he wanted it to happen or because he really believed God would fulfill His promises?

Often in English we use the word "hope" and "wish" interchangeably, but when the Bible talks about, "the hope we have in Jesus", it is not just talking about something we would like to see happen someday. It is speaking of something we can firmly believe, because God is faithful to His promises. Read Hebrews 3:6.

We may not be prophets like Isaiah was, but God calls all of us to hear from Him, and offer words of encouragement to those that need to know He loves them and is working to make all things right in His timing.

Challenge: Find a way to tell someone around you about how much Jesus loves them! You can use your words, but you can also use your actions. Think of a neighbor, friend or family member that is having a rough day or just need to know they are loved. You could make them a card, bake cookies, give them a hug, read to them or anything else you can dream up that shows them God loves THEM!

Remember: As a family work on memorizing/mediating on 1 Peter 3:15

"But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,

Ideas: Write this passage down and hang it on the refrigerator. Say it together as a family during meal time each day. Write it on a chalk or white board and erase a couple of words each day until you can say it by memory.

Respond: "Dear Jesus, thank you that we always have hope in YOU! Help us to hold firmly to this promise and share the hope we have found in you with othersAmen!"