

## Module Overview:

Even though we live in a chaotic and unstable world, the Bible tells us that God will provide mental and spiritual peace and stability to those who love and trust in Him. In this week's lesson, we will talk about what this means for us.

## Module 7, Week 1: The Promise of Perfect Peace

1. In **Matthew 24:6-7**, we read about the instability of the world: *You will hear about wars. You will hear reports about wars in other places. But you must not be afraid. Those things must happen first, but it is not yet the end of everything. People in one country will attack the people in another country. Kings and their armies will fight against other kings and their armies. In some places, people will be hungry, with no food. The ground will shake in many different places.*

**Question:** Even though these verses were written almost 2,000 years ago, how are they still true today? No matter the time in history, there are wars, threats of wars, earthquakes, and famines.

2. In **Jeremiah 4:19-20a**, we also read: *My sadness and worry is making my stomach hurt. I am bent over in pain. I am so afraid. My heart is pounding inside me. I cannot keep quiet, because I have heard the trumpet blow. The trumpet is calling the army to war. Disaster follows disaster. The whole country is destroyed.*

**Question:** How does Jeremiah, the Old Testament prophet, describe his feelings, and how can these verses be viewed literally and figuratively? He feels anxious and overwhelmed. This can be understood literally as the threat of wars in the world, or figuratively as anxiety and sadness in one's own personal struggles.

3. Even though we live in a violent, unstable world, God promises to keep our hearts and minds in constant peace if we remain committed and focused on Jesus (**Isaiah 1:7**). In **John 14:27**, Jesus tells us: *Peace I leave with you; My [perfect] peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be afraid. Let My perfect peace calm you in every circumstance and give you courage and strength for every challenge.*

**Question:** According to these verses, how can we have "constant peace" and strength for every challenge? By remaining committed and focused on Jesus, we can remain calm and steady in every circumstance and face any challenge with strength that comes through the Holy Spirit.

4. In **Deuteronomy 31:5**, we are told *to be strong and courageous... for it is the LORD your God who goes with you. He will not fail you or abandon you.* And **Hebrews 13:8** reads: *Jesus Christ is always the same, yesterday, today, and forever.*

**Question:** According to these verses, what promises are given? The Lord promises to never abandon or leave us, and we can trust Him because He is unwavering.

## Talk About It:

- What current world circumstances cause you to feel anxious and unsettled?
- Why is it difficult for us to keep our minds constantly focused on Jesus?
- Why does it matter to us that the Lord is unchanging and unwavering?
- How does knowing that the Lord will never fail you give you peace?

## Module 7, Week 2: God Promises to Guard and Guide Us

Last week, we talked about how God provides peace and stability to those who trust in Him, even when the world and our circumstances are chaotic and unstable. This week, we will talk about how the Lord promises to guard and guide us.

**Memory Verse:** *Your word is like a lamp that guides my steps, a light that shows the path I should take.* **Psalm 119:105**

1. In **Psalm 91:11**, we read: *For God commands his angels with regard to you, to guard you wherever you go.* And Psalm 121:7 reads: *The LORD will guard you from all evil; he will guard your soul.*

**Note:** The Hebrew word for **guard** is *Shamar*, and it implies active, attentive, and ongoing protection.

**Question:** According to these verses, how does the Lord *Shamar* us? He provides active and ongoing protection over us wherever we go and from all evil.

2. In **Philippians 4:7-8**, we are told: *Don't worry about anything, but pray and ask God for everything you need, always giving thanks for what you have. And because you belong to Christ Jesus, God's peace will stand guard over all your thoughts and feelings. His peace can do this far better than our human minds.*

**Question:** According to these verses, how does God "standing guard over all our thoughts and feelings" help us to not worry about anything? Worry is produced in our minds, so if God is actively protecting our thoughts and feelings, we can rest in His peace and promises.

3. **Isaiah 30:21** tells us: *You will hear his voice behind you. When you turn off the path, to the right or to the left, it will say, 'This is the right way. Walk in it.'* And **Psalm 32:8** reads: *The Lord says, "I will teach you and guide you in the way you should live. I will watch over you and be your guide."*

### **Question:**

In what ways has the Lord promised to guide and watch over us? The Lord has promised to guide us in a life that leads to and honors Him.

4. In **Psalm 119:105**, we read: *Your word is like a lamp that guides my steps, a light that shows the path I should take.* And **John 16:13a** reads: *When the Holy Spirit, who is truth, comes, he shall guide you into all truth.*

**Question:** How do the Bible (God's Word) and the Holy Spirit work together? The Holy Spirit helps us understand the Bible, believe it, and apply God's Word to our lives.

### **Let's Talk About It**

- Why does God promise to actively protect His children, and what is He protecting them from?
- How are we comforted knowing God is guarding and guiding His children?
- What role do we play in God's protection and guidance, and how can it be disrupted?

**Challenge:** This week, spend time in prayer thanking God for all the ways He has guarded and guided you, and pray for friends and family members who may be struggling.

## Module 7, Week 3: Abide, Dwell, and Hold Tightly to Jesus

We've been talking about how God provides peace and stability to those who trust in Him and how He promises to guard and guide them. This week, we will talk about why faith requires a daily choice to abide in Jesus.

**Note:** The verb **abide** means to stay in constant connection; to dwell, to hold tightly to.

1. In **John 15:4**, we read: *Remain joined to me, just as I also remain joined to you. No branch can bear fruit by itself. It must remain joined to the vine. In the same way, you can't bear fruit unless you remain joined to me.*

**Question:** What happens if a branch is cut off from the fruit vine, and what is the implication for us spiritually? When cut from the vine, the branch dies. This is true for us physically and spiritually. Eternal life is only found in Jesus.

2. In **Job 24:13**, we read: *There are those who rebel against the light; they do not know its ways nor abide in its paths.* And **Deuteronomy 11:22b and 13:2b** read: *Show love to the LORD your God by walking in his ways and holding tightly to him... listen to His voice, serve Him, and cling to Him.*

**Question:** What is the difference between those who "rebel against the light" and those who "hold tightly" to the Lord? Those who rebel neither know nor follow God's path and plan, and those who hold tightly walk in God's ways and purposes.

3. **Psalm 91:1** reads: *He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall remain stable and fixed under the shadow of the Almighty [Whose power no foe can withstand].*

4. **Galatians 5:22-23a** reads: *The Holy Spirit causes us to live in a different way. We love other people. We are happy and we have peace in our minds. We are patient, kind, and good. People can trust us to do what is right. We respect other people and we rule ourselves properly.*

### Let's Talk About It:

- What habits help you stay connected to Jesus?
- How does abiding change the way you handle stress, conflict, or uncertainty?
- Why does having faith in Jesus rooted in trust and sustained in abiding matter?

Spend the remainder of the meeting preparing for next week's **INVITE MEETING**:

1. A student testimony and read the invitation after the testimony
2. Download and print the Response Cards ([www.yclprograms.org/Students](http://www.yclprograms.org/Students))
3. Invite your friends and post the meeting information on social media

**Challenge:** Invite friends to your youth group and/or church.

## **Module 7, Week 4: INSPIRE Week**

Welcome to our group! We are so glad you are here [Introduce your leadership team].

We meet each week to talk about God, explore what the Bible says, and discuss real-life topics that matter to students. Although we are a student-led Christian group, everyone is welcome. This is a safe, supportive place to build friendships, learn about faith, and feel connected.

Now, let's open the meeting in prayer [student leader prays].

This is **INSPIRE Week** and it's an opportunity to hear faith stories and the good news of Jesus.

The Bible verse we're working from is **Psalm 32:8**: *The Lord says, "I will teach you and guide you in the way you should live. I will watch over you and be your guide."*

### **A Student leader shares their faith story NOW**

#### **Prayer and invitation:**

We will now take a minute to talk to God through prayer. In the quiet of your heart and mind, I invite anyone here who wants to begin a relationship with God through faith in Jesus, to agree in your heart and mind with what I am saying because God hears our private thoughts. I will pray out loud and I invite you to pray this in your head:

Dear Heavenly Father,

I come to you with an open heart. I acknowledge that my self focus has separated me from you. Thank you for promising to hear and answer my prayer, and for showing me that Jesus is the way back to you. I want to place my trust in Him to guard and guide me. Help me to turn from doing things my way and release my life over to you.

In Jesus Name, I pray. Amen

### **Pass out Response Cards NOW**

If this is your prayer today, know that God welcomes you into His family, and you can begin walking in a new relationship with Him right now. And please join us for next week's meeting when we will start a new module.

**Challenge:** Remember to invite visitors to next week's group meeting and to tell them about your youth group/church.