

PARENT PARTNER

WEEKLY PLAN



Week 3: Joy Amidst Trials

Joy is not just for the good times. Christian joy is about trusting God amidst our challenges, trials, and even tribulations.

This month we are examining the ways in which we rely on joy during difficult times. This week we appeal to the Lord who is our refuge and haven in difficult days and find faith filled joy in trusting Him.

PRAYER TIME

THIS IS YOUR DAILY SCRIPTURE:

But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them shout for joy forever. May you shelter them, and may those who love your name boast about you (Ps. 5:11).

THIS IS YOUR DAILY PRAYER:

Heavenly Father, help me lead my family to always take refuge in you. May we rejoice and shout for joy forever. God, protect and guide my family. May we always boast about You and your love for us.

DRIVETIME

CONVERSATION

PARENT PRE-READING: Consider it a great joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you experience various trials (James 1:2).

CONVERSATION STARTER: I was reading in James, and it tells us to consider it a great joy when we face trials. Why would he say something like that?

DINNER TIME

CONVERSATION

STARTING QUESTIONS

What was something that brought you joy today and what was something that brought you sorrow?

READ THIS TOGETHER *Though the fig tree does not bud and there is no fruit on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though the flocks disappear from the pen and there are no herds in the stalls, yet I will celebrate in the Lord; I will rejoice in the God of my salvation! The Lord my Lord is my strength; he makes my feet like those of a deer and enables me to walk on mountain heights! (Habakkuk 3:17-19)*

SCRIPTURAL APPLICATION QUESTIONS

When times are difficult, what do you normally do?

How do you think God would want us to respond when we face difficulties?

In the passage above, how does it seem like the author responds when he faces difficulties?

ACTIVITY TIME

JOY IN THE TRIALS

Sharing the stories of difficulties in our lives and how God was faithful is crucial for teens to hear about from their parents. If we want our children to turn to God when times are hard, they need to know that this is where we turn, as well. Take your teen out for a meal, ice cream, or cup of coffee. During this time share a time in your life when you worked through something difficult. Share how God was there and how you overcame the difficulty. Be willing to share how you could have done things differently or better. Encourage and remind them of God's faithfulness and your willingness to be there for them when they walk through difficulties.