

Dear Children's Ministry Leaders,

In light of churches across the country closing in response to COVID-19 safety precautions, we at Group Publishing want to ensure that your children continue to receive spiritual nurturing. As a result, Group is allowing churches who use our materials to send families lessons and student materials your kids would normally participate in at church. We hope you enjoy using this content in a different way, and that your kids are impacted.

Group is extending the following permissions to churches upon request:

- 1. Permission to share the included student materials with families from your churches via email, postal service, or a privately accessible, password-protected website that only families from your church can access.**
- 2. Permission to share other elements from the week's lesson, such as the teacher guide that goes along with this lesson, with families from your churches via email, postal service, or a privately accessible, password-protected website that only families from your church can access.**
- 3. Permission to share a video recording presenting this lesson with families via your church website or platform of your choice. (We ask that you remove the video each week when you post a new one.)**

You may decide to offer a video broadcast or pre-recorded video where you and your regular Children's Ministry crew lead these lessons digitally for families to partake in at home. Or you may encourage parents to lead these lessons, which creates a fun opportunity for them to see what a typical lesson for their kids is like.

This permission is granted on a limited basis for as long as your church is unable to meet in person. Families are encouraged to use these materials within their households, but may not publish or share them in any way outside of your church family.

If you want to use Group's materials beyond these permissions, email permissions@group.com.

We hope God blesses your congregation through this unusual season, and that your community remains strong even though for a time you may not be meeting together.

God bless you, and stay healthy!

- Your friends at Group Publishing



Bible Buzz

Lesson 9

Digging for GOLD

Look up these verses and jot down the gold nuggets of faith and hope that you find there.

1 Peter 1:3

1 Peter 1:4

1 Peter 1:5

1 Peter 1:6-7

1 Peter 1:8-9

GOLD STEALERS

In the space below, draw a representation of something that tries to steal your hope.

TRUE HOPE

In the space below, draw a picture of a tough situation you're facing and a representation of how Jesus gives you hope.

Key Verse: "Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope" (Romans 5:3-4).



In his letter of encouragement, Peter told Christians who were being persecuted how and why they could maintain their faith in Jesus. This was when Christians were being thrown to the lions! Peter told them to remain faithful and joyful even in their suffering. After all, even hungry lions can't destroy the hope we have in Jesus: eternal life. (1 Peter 1:3-9)

- Why is it sometimes tough to have faith in Jesus?
- Why is it good for us to have faith in Jesus?
- What are you hoping that Jesus will take care of for you?

Daily Challenge

Put your hope in Jesus this week:

- Think of one part of your life where you need faith in Jesus. Keep a journal this week as you see opportunities to grow in that area.

- In what areas have you honestly done a better job talking about faith than living it? Work on "walking your talk" this week. Show others how your faith in Jesus makes a meaningful difference in your life.
- Be a friend to someone going through a hard time. If you've been through something similar, share with that person how Jesus helped you through that time. If you haven't, just take time to listen and really hear what he or she's going through—it will make more of a difference than you think.

Family Fun

Plan a time of faith-filled storytelling. Encourage each family member to come up with at least one story in advance. It can be a personal story or a story you've heard that really expresses the value or meaning of keeping the faith. Pop some popcorn or prepare another fun snack together; then sit around and have each person tell stories of faith. Afterward, encourage family members to share what their faith in Jesus means to them.



The WORD for the Week

MONDAY

Romans 8:28

- How can this verse help you the next time you're worried or afraid?

TUESDAY

Isaiah 41:10

- How can this verse help you face your problems?

WEDNESDAY

Matthew 6:25

- Jesus tells us not to worry. How does this verse give you hope?



THURSDAY

Psalms 23

- How can reading this verse the next time you face trials give you peace?

FRIDAY

Hebrews 11:1-2

- What are some things about your faith that you're sure of?

SATURDAY

2 Timothy 4:7

- How does your faith help you keep going?

Bible Point

Have faith in Jesus.