Zechariah Gave Hope (Zechariah 13–14)

Dear Alliance Kids families,

Peace and *security* are words often heard in the whirlwind of our news cycles. They are used as ideas or desires that require work to achieve. They are used in the negative sense of not being a current reality. They are used as the aim, answer, or solution to the world's problems.

Though the idea of peace and security are not foreign to our vernacular, they are most certainly foreign to much of our world's reality. It is hard to find a pocket of the earth that might be described with these terms. Rather, what is most found is chaos and fear.

When we understand the true impact of sin on the world, this comes as no surprise. It's not shocking to see the news of war and violence. It does not bring amazement to hear of murder and strife. There is no astonishment at the experience of disappointment or pain. Because we know that we live in a world riddled with sin and its implications.

Read the words of Zechariah 14:11. What comes to mind? "People will live there, and never again will there be a curse of complete destruction. So Jerusalem will dwell in security."

Are you struck by the thought of such a place that could be described as secure? Are you left longing for that to be your reality? Are you doubtful that this could ever be a reality?

Ultimately, this is a promise that is sure to happen. This promise is reiterated in Deuteronomy 7:7-9:

“The LORD had his heart set on you and chose you, not because you were more numerous than all peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples. But because the LORD loved you and kept the oath he swore to your ancestors, he brought you out with a strong hand and redeemed you from the place of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps his gracious covenant loyalty for a thousand generations with those who love him and keep his commands.”

This promise was for God’s people then, and it is for all who follow Jesus today as well. This peace and security is ours in Christ. As sure as Christ has come, lived, died, and risen, so can we find rest that this promise is true and this day will come.

Check out The Gospel Project At Home for resources designed to help you lead a family worship experience as well as suggestions for morning and evening prayer times and family activities.

FAMILY TALKING POINTS

CHRIST CONNECTION

This is the big idea of how this week’s Bible story points to Jesus.

- **2 & 3 year olds**: Zechariah spoke a message of hope to God’s people. God would one day set up a new and better kingdom with a new and better King. God kept His promise by sending Jesus. Because of Jesus, we can have hope and forgiveness of sins by trusting in Him.
- **4 year olds & Kindergarten**: Zechariah spoke a message of hope to God’s people. God would one day set up a new and better kingdom with a new and better King. God kept His promise by sending Jesus. Because of Jesus, we can have hope and forgiveness of sins by trusting in Him.
- **Grade 1-6**: Zechariah spoke a message of hope to God’s people. God would one day set up a new and better kingdom with a new and better King. God kept His promise by sending Jesus. Because of Jesus, we can have hope and forgiveness of sins by trusting in Him.

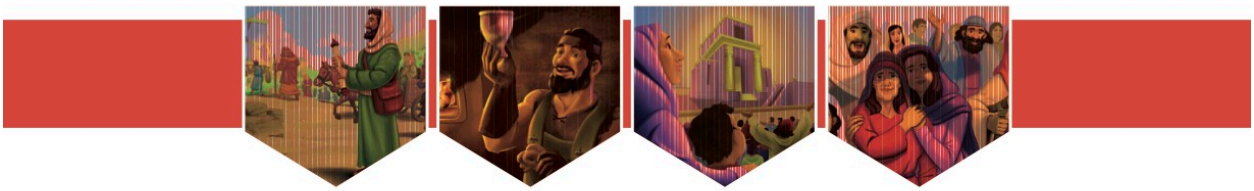
BIG PICTURE QUESTION & ANSWER

This is an important biblical truth that your child will encounter each week of this unit.

- **2 & 3 year olds:** Can God be trusted? Yes, we can trust whatever He has said.
- **4 year olds & Kindergarten:** Can God be trusted? Yes, God cannot lie, so we can trust whatever He has said.
- **Grade 1-6:** Can God be trusted? Yes, God cannot lie or ever be wrong, so we can trust whatever He has said.

KEY PASSAGE

This is a Bible verse that relates to what your child will encounter each week of this unit. It's also a verse we are challenging all the kids to memorize! We will be learning a song to help with memorizing this verse, which you can find on our Facebook page: FSJ Alliance Kids



The person who trusts in the LORD, whose confidence indeed is the LORD, is blessed.

Jeremiah 17:7

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**** Join us Next Sunday @ 9:30:** The People Rebuilt the Temple (Ezra 2–6)