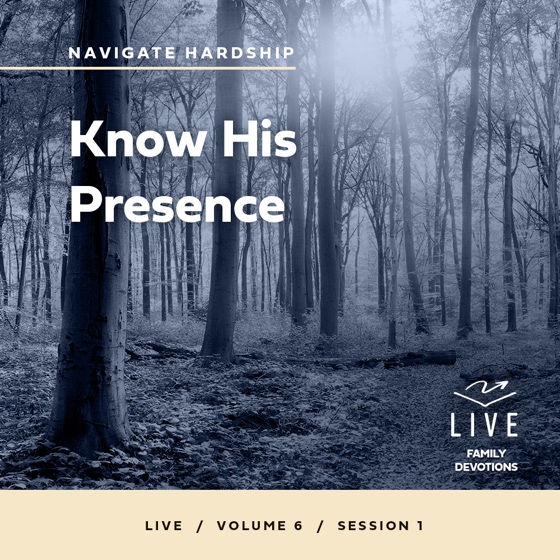
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**Day 1**

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| **Faith Fact**  I can trust God is with me.  **Faith Verse**  Psalm 34:19  The righteous person faces many troubles, but the Lord comes to the rescue each time.  **Question of the Day: Why is it sometimes hard to trust God?** |

**Read about It**

**Read:** Mark 4:35–38

Try to remember the scariest storm you’ve ever been in. The rain is coming down so fast you can barely see in front of you, and the raindrops are hitting so hard that they actually hurt. The wind whipping around you is picking up branches, flowers, and other small items that may be close. The sky is dark, but you can see the lightning crackling through the sky. The loud sound of thunder is booming all around you. This would be pretty scary! Imagine how scary this storm would be if you were out on a boat in the middle of a lake!

This is a lot like what happened to Jesus’ disciples. They thought they were going to drown for sure, and they were terrified. Many times, the difficult times we face in life can feel like these storms. They can be scary, and we can feel like the disciples did, asking if God even cares. Yet, even in the middle of the storm on the lake, Jesus was there, and He was in control. In the middle of our storms, we can trust God because He is always close to us, and He is always able to help.

**Talk about It**

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| **Question 1.** What happened to the disciples when they went out on the boat?  **Answer 1.** A fierce storm came up. The boat began to fill with water. (Mark 4:37) |
| **Question 2.** What was Jesus doing while it was storming?  **Answer 2.** Jesus was asleep. (Mark 4:38) |
| **Question 3.** How do the difficult things we face in life sometimes feel like a storm?  **Answer 3.** Answers will vary. |
| **Question 4.** Why do you think Jesus was able to sleep through the storm?  **Answer 4.** Answers will vary. |
| **Question 5.** Why is it sometimes hard to trust God?  **Answer 5.** Answers will vary. |

**Pray about It**

Dear God, even when I face the storms of life that seem hard, help me to remember that You always hear me and help me. Help me to trust You. Amen.

**Day 2**

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| **Faith Fact**  I can trust God is with me.  **Faith Verse**  Psalm 34:19  The righteous person faces many troubles, but the Lord comes to the rescue each time.  **Question of the Day: Why should trusting God give you peace?** |

**Read about It**

**Read:** Mark 4:38–41

When a baby is first learning to walk, they’re not very steady on their feet. They have many falls as they’re learning to take those first steps on their own. Sometimes when they fall, they may bump their head or their knees and begin to cry. They cry because they may have gotten hurt, or maybe because the fall scared them. But when someone who loves them comes and picks them up, the baby settles down and stops crying. They are comforted and at peace because they know they’re not alone.

When Jesus calmed the storm on the lake, the disciples were shocked that He could do that. They were also at peace because the storm settled at Jesus’ command. When we go through hard times in our life, we can look to God. He is more powerful than anything we face, and we can be sure that we are not alone. We can be comforted and at peace because we know that God is with us.

**Talk about It**

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| **Question 1.** What did Jesus say to the wind and the waves?  **Answer 1.** “Silence! Be still!” (Mark 4:39) |
| **Question 2.** What happened after Jesus spoke to the wind and waves?  **Answer 2.** “The wind stopped, and there was a great calm.” (Mark 4:39) |
| **Question 3.** Why do you think the disciples were scared after Jesus calmed the storm?  **Answer 3.** They didn’t know that anyone could do what Jesus had done. Even the wind and the waves obeyed His command. |
| **Question 4.** How does it make you feel knowing that you are not alone in hard times?  **Answer 4.** Answers will vary. |
| **Question 5.** Why should trusting God give you peace?  **Answer 5.** Answers will vary. |

**Pray about It**

Dear God, thank You that You have power over everything, and that You can bring peace to any situation. Help me to trust that You are always with me. Amen.

**Day 3**

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| **Faith Fact**  I can trust God is with me.  **Faith Verse**  Psalm 34:19 (NLT)  The righteous person faces many troubles, but the Lord comes to the rescue each time.  **Question of the Day: How can we remember that God is close to us?** |

**Read about It**

**Read:** Psalm 23:1–6

Have you ever been in a rush to leave the house because you were late, and you couldn’t find one of your shoes? You run all over the place—looking in your closet, under your bed, and even in the garage. You start to feel so upset that you almost can’t think straight. You begin to get really frustrated until you realize that your shoe has been right in front of you the whole time.

Just as the disciples were probably running around the boat, scooping out the water that was flooding in and trying not to drown, sometimes we become upset in our hard times. We forget that God is with us. It can be easy to allow our focus to move to the hard things we’re going through instead of remembering He is with us through His Holy Spirit. We must learn to remember God’s presence. Like a shepherd, He is always close enough to help when we need, and He always has our well-being in mind.

**Talk about It**

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| **Question 1.** According to the Scripture we read, why do we not need to be afraid?  **Answer 1.** God is close to us. (Psalm 23:4) |
| **Question 2.** How do you imagine God cares for you like a shepherd cares for his sheep?  **Answer 2.** Answers will vary. |
| **Question 3.** When was a time that it was hard to remember that God was with you?  **Answer 3.** Answers will vary. |
| **Question 4.** Why do we get so upset in difficult situations?  **Answer 4.** Answers will vary. |
| **Question 5.** How can we remember that God is close to us?  **Answer 5.** Answers will vary. |

**Pray about It**

Dear God, I know that You are always close to me no matter what problem I face. Help me always to look to You to guide me every day. Amen.

**Day 4**

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| **Faith Fact**  I can trust God is with me.  **Faith Verse**  Psalm 34:19 (NLT)  The righteous person faces many troubles, but the Lord comes to the rescue each time.  **Question of the Day: What can we do in troubles to know that God is close to us?** |

**Read about It**

**Read:** Psalm 91:1–6

Have you ever seen how a mother bird protects her babies? She takes her wings and wraps her babies up underneath her wings to cover them. This helps to keep them away from bad weather or animals that want to eat them. As the baby birds hide themselves under their mother’s wings, they are sheltered and protected.

The Bible says that when we go to God for protection, He will cover and shelter us with His “wings.” When we’re going through hard times, it feels like we are being attacked. When the problems won’t stop, we can run to God who is always with us. We can trust Him to be faithful. He is as close to us as the air we breathe. In the times that are hard, we can call on Him and know He will always be there.

**Talk about It**

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| **Question 1.** How does a mother bird protect her baby birds?  **Answer 1.** By covering them with her wings |
| **Question 2.** How is this like what today’s Bible verses say that God does?  **Answer 2.** “He will cover you with his feathers. He will shelter you with his wings.” (Psalm 91:4) |
| **Question 3.** How can trusting God to be close help us get through problems?  **Answer 3.** Answers will vary. |
| **Question 4.** What does hearing these verses make you feel about God?  **Answer 4.** Answers will vary. |
| **Question 5.** What can we do in troubles to know that God is close to us?  **Answer 5.** Go to Him for protection. Answers will vary. |

**Pray about It**

Dear God, thank You for being close enough to rescue me in times of trouble. Help me to run to You in difficult times. When I’m afraid, help me to remember that You are there to help. Amen.