

# **CALVARY CHAPEL OAKDALE**



**2023-2024**

**THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT**

**DECEMBER, 2023**

**This Month's THEME:**

**WE ARE TO BEAR  
THE FRUIT OF "PEACE"**

**WEEKLY THEMES THIS MONTH:**

**Week 1:** We need the fruit of God's peace.

**Week 2:** Do we know where to find peace?

**Week 3:** How can we stay in peace?

**Week 4:** There a peace that surpasses our  
understanding?

**Week 5:** Jesus suffered greatly so we can have peace.

**(5<sup>th</sup> Weekly devotion for months with 5 Wednesdays)**

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

**John 14:27** – Peace I leave  
with you, My peace I give  
to you; not as the world  
gives do I give to you. Let  
not your heart be troubled,  
neither let it be afraid.



Full verse for:  
Armor Bearers & Knights

**John 14:27** – Peace I  
leave with you, Let  
not your heart be  
troubled, neither let  
it be afraid.



Short verse for:  
Page & Squires

## **Lesson #1 - We need the fruit of God's peace.**

**Text:** Galatians 5:22a - "The fruit of the Spirit is ... PEACE!"

**Read:** Galatians 5:19-26.

### **Devotional:**

Andy completed a science project for his Junior High School science class. For his project, Andy planted a couple of different fruits in his garden to see how well they would grow with different amounts of sunlight and water and fertilizer.

Well, to Andy's surprise, some of the plants yielded MUCH more fruit than others. As he was writing out the differences in the way each plant was treated, Andy was surprised by how little changes in sunlight and water made big differences in the amount of fruit that was produced.

And as Andy was kicking this around in his mind for a few days, he went to church and heard his youth pastor talking about how people bear very different levels of fruit in their lives. In his message, the pastor spoke of the light of the world as being represented by Jesus and the water representing the presence and work of the Holy Spirit in a person's life.

That was when it hit Andy. We bear fruit just like plants. And the more fruit we bear depends on the amount of Jesus and the Holy Spirit in our lives.

### **Thoughts from the Lesson:**

Different people bear very different amounts of fruit in their lives. And we should consider what different conditions existed between these different lives. Some had more light & water as they stayed close to Jesus & the Holy Spirit. And some had very little light and bore much less fruit, on average. Andy began to realize why people bear such different levels of the fruit of the Holy Spirit.

### **Questions for Application:**

- Do we truly have peace in life as God describes peace?
- Do we know where to get true peace?
- Do we know God can give us peace that will last through all circumstances?

## Lesson #2 - Do we know WHERE to find peace?

**Text:** John 14:27 - "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

**Read:** John 14:25-27.

### **Devotional:**

Little Jamie was in a panic as she frantically looked all over her house for something very special, she had lost. The longer she looked the more frustrated she became. After a while her frustration turned into tears. As her mother noticed how upset she was, she offered to help. "Jamie", she asked, "What's wrong? Can I help?"

And Jamie said, "I don't know. I've been looking for something for two days and I can't find it. I'm afraid I've lost it forever and I'm afraid I'll never have enough money to replace it."

So, her mother said, "Jamie, I love you and I want to help. Now, it's possible we may never find it, but know that one day you will earn enough money to buy another one."

Jamie finally told her mother what she'd lost, and her mother helped.

But while they were looking, Jamie's mother told her, "Jamie, I'd like to tell you about something the PEACE of God you can never lose if you put your trust in Jesus.

### **Thoughts from the Lesson:**

Jamie's mother told her that God offers all people true peace. It is the real ability to have a calm and peace of mind that everything is going to be O.K. in the end. And no matter what happens in life we will still be able to enjoy this peace.

"But there is a catch." Jamie's mother said. "This peace is only found in one person. This peace is only found in Jesus, and you must go to Him to get it."

### **Questions for Application:**

- Have we come to Jesus to ask Him for peace?
- Did we know Jesus conquered the things that rob our peace?
- Do we want peace from Jesus? Just believe in Him and ask.

## Lesson #3 - How can we stay in peace?

**Text:** Isaiah 26:3 - "You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You."

**Read:** Isaiah 26:1-4.

### **Devotional:**

On the way to school one day, Jackie saw a sign that says, "Are you having a bad day?" The sign also had more to say, but that was all Jackie could read before her dad drove past it.

So, Jackie asked her dad, "Dad! Why is it we have some good days and some bad days? I wish I knew how to have good days all the time."

So, her dad answered and said, "Jackie, while we are here on earth, we will all have good days as well as bad. And we need to know sometimes bad things happen that are just very hard to understand. Jesus said, "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." Her dad went on to say. "So, Jesus said we will all have tribulations that can seem like very bad days. But the Bible also tells us HOW we can still have peace in life, even when things go very badly. Do you want to know how to have a peace like that?"

"Of course!", Jackie told her dad. She wanted a peace that was perfect and never went away. "So, how can I have this perfect peace dad? Can you tell me?"

### **Thoughts from the Lesson:**

Jackie's dad told her the only way we can have perfect peace is when our minds are focused on the Lord Jesus. He never changes and can get us through all things. So, when we focus on Him, we can keep His peace. That is our only guarantee for peace.

### **Questions for Application:**

- Did we know a PERFECT peace is available to us?
- Did we know we can keep our minds on the Lord for peace?
- Do we need help to learn how to keep our minds on the Lord and on His many promises to us?

## **Lesson #4 - There is a peace that surpasses our understanding.**

**Text:** Philippians 4:6-7 - "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

**Read:** Philippians 4:6-8.

### **Devotional:**

As Blake was about to enter his senior year of high school, he had been thinking about where he wanted to go to college. As he began applying to a couple of colleges nearby, Blake also began to feel anxious about which college he really wanted to attend, and whether anyone of them would even accept him to their school. Adding to his stress, Blake was also beginning to feel unsure if the major he had selected was the right choice or if he should change that as well.

Well, with all this swirling around in Blake's mind, he decided to go to a school counselor he trusted. The counselor also happened to go to the same church he attended.

Well, the counselor told him, "Blake, you seem to be very anxious about a great many things, but just know for the most part, you have almost no control over any of those things. Can I suggest something?"

Blake was happy to get some help with his growing anxiety.

So, the counselor read Philippians 4:6-7 to Blake and told him the Bible commands us to be anxious for NOTHING. And, instead of being anxious, we can pray to God and give Him our concerns & trust Him to lead us.

### **Thoughts from the Lesson:**

Blake decided to do what the counselor told him and for the first time in a very long time, he began to experience true peace.

### **Questions for Application:**

- Do we take all our anxieties and worries to the Lord?
- Do we know God can give us a peace that is so great we cannot even explain it to people other than God did it?
- Did we know God can guard our hearts & minds with peace?

## **Lesson #5 - Jesus suffered greatly so we can have peace.**

**Text:** Ephesians 2:15-16 - "Having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity."

**Read:** Ephesians 2:13-18.

### **Devotional:**

Emily was in high school when she began working at her very first job. She was so excited to be able to work and earn her own money. Emily was a very hard worker. Well, the day finally came when she would receive her first paycheck. Just the thought of it made her excited to get that check in her hand and drive to the bank to deposit it into her account. When she got home, she told her parents how satisfying it was to be able to deposit money into her account after working so hard.

Her parents told her, "Emily! We are so proud of you for working so hard. And now you can see hard work pays off, even if it can be hard and frustrating, and even painful, at times."

Emily replied, "I finally understand why you've always told me of the need to work hard. It's because the joy and satisfaction after the work is so wonderful." And then it began to dawn on Emily how amazing Jesus must have felt after He died to pay for mankind's sins. He had to live a perfect life for over 33 years to be able to do that for us. And He did it perfectly while never making a mistake. He died a painful death for us to receive the gift of salvation and peace.

### **Thoughts from the Lesson:**

Emily finally realized Jesus' work, which was supernatural and so selfless was what the world needed. And because of it Jesus was able to offer all of mankind salvation and peace. What a joy to know Jesus made the greatest sacrifice ever, with His life, to bless us.

### **Questions for Application:**

- Why did Jesus work so hard to offer salvation & peace?
- Who did Jesus suffer and die?
- Do we need to work hard to receive our salvation?

## What are the age groups for WFC?



### Pages

(3-4 years old)



### Squires

(K-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade)



### Armor Bearers

(3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade)



### Knights

(Jr. & Sr. High)

Note: All age groups determined by child's age on 9/1 ea. yr.

## What awards can our children earn?

Three special pins can be earned each year and are awarded to the children as follows:

1. Sword Pin: For memorizing 6 verses during the WFC calendar year.
2. Helmet of Salvation Pin: For bringing 3 different friends to an evening during the calendar year.
3. Armor Pin: For attending 2/3 of the 34 weeks or more (22 wks).

## Is there a cost for the club?

No! The club is free. The t-shirts are \$20 each.