

*Life toward God*

**KIDS**

*daily devotions*

## **Jehovah-Shalom: The Lord is Peace**

*Gary Sinclair*

### *Scripture*

You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you. Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord God is an everlasting rock. (Isaiah 26:3-4)

### *Devotion*

Boys and girls, I hope you're enjoying this wonderful journey as we learn about the names of God in Scripture. I have loved discovering how God's names tell us so much about Him, and I hope you have too! What's also cool is that we're learning the names in Hebrew, the language of the Old Testament, and I hope you're reminding yourself of these great Hebrew phrases!

Well, today, the name we are going to think about is Jehovah Shalom, which simply means 'The Lord is Peace!' When you think of peace, you might think of sitting on the bank of a peaceful river where the water is perfectly clear, where you are surrounded by beautiful flowers and trees, and the birds chirp sweetly in the trees. But, in the Bible, the word 'peace' means more than stillness or tranquility. It also means completeness, safety, and wellness.

Now, the first time we read of Jehovah Shalom is in Judges 6:24 with a guy by the name of Gideon. Israel had been living in sinful disobedience to God and so God sent the Midianites to make the Israelites' life really hard and miserable. Eventually, God's people cried out to Him in prayer, and the Lord heard His people, and He came down to meet with Gideon. And then, the most amazing thing happens: when Gideon realized it was God, he was scared; but God is kind to say, "Peace be to you. Do not fear..." And this results in Gideon naming the place Jehovah Shalom because he understood that God is Peace, that God brings Peace, and God gives Peace!

You see boys and girls, just like the Israelites, we also wander away from God and look for peace in all the wrong places. God wants us to trust Him always, and to find peace in Him as we believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. God alone is the God of Peace, and Jesus Christ is the Prince of Peace (read Isaiah 9:6), and we are to look to Him and trust Him each day.

Our hearts long for peace, and true peace is a person: He is Jesus Christ! Please will you praise and thank the Lord for Jesus, and the peace He gives!





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### *Questions*

*3-5-yr-olds*

Think about one thing that troubles you or makes you sad. Why does it make you sad? Tell your parents and let them pray with you. Remember to thank Jesus for being your Prince of Peace.

*1st-3rd graders*

In the book of Judges, and throughout Scripture, there is what is called the 'sin cycle:' sin; suffering; supplication/prayer; salvation; silence (a time of peace). Can you identify these stages in the story with Gideon? Can you remember a time in your own life when this was true?

*4th-6th graders*

Please think about the questions for the 3-5 year old and Grade 1-3. Has there ever been a time when you have doubted God's goodness to you? When are you most likely to forget all the good things God has done for you in the past? What do you think you can do to help you remember?

### *Prayer*

Dear heavenly Father, we thank you for Jesus Christ, your Son, the great Prince of Peace. Forgive us for our sin and waywardness and teach us every day to remember that true peace is found in Jesus Christ alone. He is our Rock, our shelter, our joy, our hope, and our peace. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen!

### *Suggested Hymn*

Trust and Obey

