

D6 EveryDay™ Parent Page

Date | **May 28, 2023** Family Theme | **Living in Hope**
Study Text | **2 Peter 3:1-18**

Objective: Family members practice holiness and godliness in daily living, knowing the return of Christ is coming.

How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible: Peter likely wrote this second letter to believers scattered throughout Asia Minor sometime between AD 64-67. He probably wrote it from Rome not long before he was martyred.

Bible Basics: Go over the following question and answer with family members. **Will Jesus come to earth again? Answer:** Yes. At a time that God the Father has planned, Jesus will gloriously return to earth (Hebrews 9:28). He will then take all believers to Heaven and condemn all unbelievers to Hell (Matthew 25:31-46).

Read the Word: 2 Peter 3:1-18

Disciple Your Kids:

Talk with your children and grandchildren about the hope we can have and the way we should live because Jesus is coming again.



Key Truth: Christ Will Return as Promised (2 Peter 3:1-10)

- Peter reminded his readers of important truths so their thinking would remain pure. He called them to remember the words of the Old Testament prophets and the teachings of Jesus passed on to them by the apostles, especially the teachings regarding the return of Christ. This would correct false teaching, especially the scoffer's claim that Jesus would not come again. They argued that things had been the same since Creation and, therefore, Jesus was not coming again (verses 1-6).
- Regardless of what the false teachers said, God's Word could be trusted. What seemed like delay to the false teachers was actually God's patient desire for people to come to repentance. Christ is coming again! His return, along with God's judgment, will be sudden and without warning like the activity of a thief. The heavens will pass away with a loud noise and the elements will be destroyed by fire. Nothing will be hidden from God (verses 7-10).



Key Truth: Believers Grow in Faith and Godliness While Watching for Christ's Return (2 Peter 3:11-18)

- Peter taught that we should live holy and godly lives with the return of Christ in view. Believers need not dread this day, but should be eagerly waiting for it to come. When Jesus returns, it will be catastrophic for those who are unsaved. But those who are saved wait for God to establish the new heavens and new earth. Only righteousness will dwell there (verses 11-13).
- Peter instructed believers to work hard to be spotless, blameless, and at peace, ready to meet the Lord. To be *blameless* is to be without cause for fault-finding. Believers were to view the waiting as an opportunity for more people to come to Christ for salvation. Paul had given the same scriptural instructions, and the false teachers had distorted his teaching too. Peter encouraged his readers to grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord while waiting for the promised return of Christ (verses 14-18).

Discussion Starters

Use one or more of the following questions as discussion starters with family members this week. Questions in **bold** will be good to use with elementary age children.

- How will Christ's second coming be different from His first coming?
- **How does the promise of Christ's return give us hope?**
- What do believers have to look forward to at Christ's second coming?
- **How should knowing Christ will return affect the way believers live?**
- **How do we grow in our knowledge of Christ and in godly living?**

Everyday Extras

Hoping and wishing are not the same. Have a coin flipping contest to see who correctly guesses about heads and tails. You might say you *hope* it will land on heads, but you know there's an equal chance that it will land on tails. That's the "wishing" kind of hope — like hoping your team wins the game or hoping you will have chocolate cake for dessert. But the hope in the Bible is a certain expectation. It's more like gravity. When you flip the coin up in the air, you can certainly expect that it will come down again. Your hope is sure because you understand how gravity works. Our hope in God means we can count on Him to do what He has promised.

Preschool Highlights for SQUARE 1 & ROUND 2

Today your child learned **Jesus Teaches Me to Pray**. Prayer is talking to God, and it is very important for us to talk to Him. Jesus prayed to His Father and one of His prayers is known as the Lord's Prayer. We can learn from this prayer how to pray when we talk to God. Our prayers are powerful because we are praying to the one, true God who is all powerful.