



## Big Idea

### How can we have peace when all hell breaks loose?

- **We need to have the right perspective.** We need to see things through the right lens and understand that God has a better plan! Stop asking why and start asking what now. Read the story of Joseph in Genesis and be reminded that what the enemy intended for harm God intended for good. (Genesis 50:20)
- **We need to be a part of the solution.** As Believers, we don't have to be broken and miserable like those without Christ. We need to be the exact opposite. We need to RISE above all of the mess and be the solution, pointing others to put their hope and trust in Jesus.
- **We need to focus on what really matters.** When we have the eternal perspective, few things can bother us. Add these words to your life – “so what?” Don't focus on things that should NOT demand our attention. Ask this question – will it matter in 100 years from now.

### Four things to apply to your life today:

1. **Receive God's pardon.** The number one source of stress is guilt, and so many of us are carrying around the weight of sin that we have not dealt with. Let's deal with it – you can be free! (Romans 5:1)
2. **Run to God's presence.** We need to learn the art of pulling away and just being with God. (Isaiah 26:3)
3. **Respect God's principles.** So many of us love God, and are going to heaven, but we are not respecting or living by God's principles. The Bible is NOT outdated, and we cannot manipulate the Word of God to fit our lifestyle. “This book will keep me from Sin or Sin will keep me from this book” R.A. Torrey. (Psalm 119:165)
4. **Rely on God's provision.** Not just financially, but EVERYTHING that has to do with your life – your marriage, your kids, work, your health. Don't worry, instead PRAY about everything. (Philippians 4:6-7)

***Don't worry about anything; instead pray about everything; tell God your needs and don't forget to thank Him for His answers. If you do this, you will experience God's peace. Philippians 4:6-7 (LB)***

“Most Christians feed their body three hot meals a day and their spirit one cold snack a week. And they wonder why they're so weak in faith” F.F. Bosworth.

### Discussion Questions

- Would you say you're experiencing peace or are you struggling with worry and fear?
- How have you seen God move in your life in the middle of all of this?
- Share ideas about how we can be the Church and rise above to serve others and point them to Christ?
- What is taking up space in your mind right now that DOES NOT matter? How can you shift your thoughts to have an eternal perspective?
- Out of the four things to apply to our lives today, where is God nudging you the most?

### Next Steps

- How can we pray for you and your family this week? Write down each person's prayer requests and make it a point to pray for them and text them with an encouraging word at some point during the week.
- Remember prayer isn't about God moving towards us, prayer is about us moving towards God.

### Prayer Focus

- Pray for God to stop the spread of the coronavirus.
- Pray for God to give each person his perfect peace in the midst of everything.
- Pray for God's provision and protection over everyone.
- Pray for our nation and leaders.