

God invites us through His name.

Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Hebrews 4:16

1. List several real-life situations that cause you to feel vulnerable or weak.
2. Read Matthew 1:18-23. What was the meaning of the name given to Jesus in v. 23?
3. What do these verses reveal about where, when, or how God is with you today?
 - a. Matthew 28:16-20
 - b. John 14:16-18
 - c. 1 Corinthians 2:9-16
 - d. Hebrews 13:5-6
4. Thinking back to your situations from number 1 above, how do you see God in the midst of them? How does it feel when it seems as if he is absent?

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1. List some times that you felt that your needs weren't being met.
2. Now look at Genesis 22:1-14. What name is given to God in v. 14?
3. What is the connection between God "seeing" us and "providing" for us?
4. God "sees to" what we need, often before we have seen the need ourselves. What do the following verses tell you about God as a provider?
 - a. Psalm 78;17-25
 - b. Matthew 6:25-34
 - c. Luke 11:9-13
 - d. John 10:10
 - e. Acts 17:25
 - f. Romans 5:5
 - g. 1 Corinthians 10:13
 - h. Philippians 4;13
 - i. 2 Timothy 1;7
 - j. Titus 2:11
 - k. 2 Peter 1:2-4
5. Sum up what these verses have shown you about God's provision.

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Isaiah 9:6

1. Before we begin, let's pray that God would reveal to us what He would like us to get out of tonight's study.
2. What does the "Wonderful Counselor" promise the disciples in John 16:7?
3. What will this promised Holy Spirit do for us?
 - a. Jn 14:26
 - b. Jn. 15:6
 - c. Eph. 1:17-21
4. Jesus sent God's Holy Spirit to live in us as our counselor. What kind of counsel comes from God in the following passages?
 - a. Exodus 35:30-35
 - b. 1 Kings 3:5-15
 - c. Psalm 25:7-9
 - d. Psalm 32:8-10
 - e. Psalm 51:6
 - f. Psalm 73:21-24
 - g. Isaiah 28:23-29
 - h. Isaiah 50:4-5
 - i. Daniel 2:20-23
 - j. 1 Corinthians 1:26-30
 - k. James 1:5
5. Write a summary description of how God provides counsel.
6. How do you seek God's counsel when times are tough and decisions are hard to make?
7. In what specific situation do you need God's counsel right now?

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Isaiah 9:6

And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

1. Before we begin let's pray that God would open our hearts and our minds to see what He would have us see tonight.
2. What does "mighty" mean?
3. Who are some people today that you would call mighty?
4. In what ways has God demonstrated this "mighty" character in the bible?
5. What can you learn about our Mighty God and His power in the following verses?
 - a. Deuteronomy 10:17-18
 - b. Psalm 62:5-8
 - c. Isaiah 30:15
 - d. Ephesians 1:18-21
 - e. Ephesians 6:10-11
 - f. Colossians 1:10-14
 - g. Colossians 1:29
 - h. Colossians 2:9-10
 - i. 2 Thessalonians 1:11
 - j. 2 Peter 1:3
6. Looking at your own personal walk with Christ, how has God demonstrated "mighty" characteristics? Be as specific as possible.
7. During the week ahead, look for times to acknowledge God's power and mightiness. Write them down. Share them with a friend or loved one.

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1. Before we begin let us pray that God would open our hearts and our minds to see what He would have us see tonight.
2. What is the primary role of a father?
3. In the following verses, what is God the Father doing for people?
 - a. Deuteronomy 1:31
 - b. Deuteronomy 8:5
 - c. Deuteronomy 32:6
 - d. Psalm 68:5-6
 - e. Psalm 103:13
 - f. Isaiah 64:8
 - g. Jeremiah 31:20
 - h. Hosea 11:1-7
 - i. 1 John 3:1
4. How does God as Father compare to your experience of fathering growing up?
 - a. If you didn't grow up with a father who gave you his strength and kindness and who would lavish love on you when you were weak, it may not be easy to approach God as your Father. However, given what you've seen of God's character, how do you think He would want to relate to you in times of need?
5. Ask God what He wants you to know about His fatherly care for you (Ps. 27:10 and Romans 8:14-16 for encouragement).

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1. What does it mean to be at peace?
2. What are some peaceful places that you go?
3. Read the following verses, and make observations about God's peace.
 - a. John 14:27
 - b. Romans 8:5-6
 - c. Romans 15:13
 - d. Philippians 4:6-7
 - e. 1 Peter 5:6-7
 - f. 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24
 - g. 2 Thessalonians 3:16
4. From these verses, does it seem that the peace of God affects our circumstances, our disposition in those circumstances, or both? Explain.
5. Back in the first week of this study we listed real-life situations that cause you to feel vulnerable and weak. Pick one of these and give it over to God tonight. What could you say to God to turn that situation over to Him right now?
6. What are some things you can do to remind yourself to open the door for God's peace and strength then next time you are in a vulnerable situation?