

# D6 EveryDay™ Parent Page

Date | **December 5, 2021** Family Theme | **Comfort for Broken Hearts**  
Study Text | **Acts 12:1-5; James 5:7-11; Psalm 46:1-11**

**Objective:** Learners understand that the Lord will be there to help them as they deal with life's losses and follow biblical principles for coping with loss.

**How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible:** The topic of dealing with loss is common for all people and is found all through the pages of both the Old Testament and the New Testament.

**Bible Basics:** Work with family members to memorize John 14:27 this week.

**Read the Word:** Acts 12:1-5; James 5:7-11; Psalm 46:1-11

## Disciple Your Kids

Talk with your children or grandchildren about the normal process of grief that people go through when they suffer loss and healthy ways to deal with grief. Discuss how we can find comfort and direction in God's Word, and from the encouragement other believers can give.



**Key Truth: The Death of a Loved One Is One of the Most Difficult Losses We Can Experience (Acts 12:1-5)**

As we examine the story of Peter's miraculous release from prison, we often lose sight of the loss of a wonderful man of God (Acts 12:2). This passage shows us that even the godliest of people experience loss. All losses are bad but the research indicates that the worst losses in life are the death of a child, loss of a loved one as a result of suicide, and a loss as result of a homicide. These losses can place us at risk for complicated grief because they can impact us physically, psychologically, and spiritually.



**Key Truth: Healthy Grief Is a Process (James 5:7-11)**

No matter how spiritual a person may be, he or she cannot hurry through the necessary phases of dealing with a loss. Step one is to be patient. We cannot speed up the process of grief. We must be established, unwavering in our faith (James 5:8). We need to be careful not to grumble about each other and not to turn against others (James 5:9). We must remain steadfast (James 5:10-11). No matter how difficult the loss, we cannot forget that the Lord is there for us and nothing can separate us from Him.



**Key Truth: We Can Find Comfort and Direction in God's Word (Psalm 46:1-11)**

Sometimes in the most difficult losses of life, it is critical to pause and meditate upon what we have in Christ. When we don't know what to do to help ourselves or someone else after a suicide, homicide, or other sudden death, we can focus upon Psalm 46. The Scripture tells us that no matter what happens, God is our refuge (Psalm 46:1, 11). He is right there when we find ourselves in trouble. First Thessalonians 4 indicates the importance of focusing upon the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ as a coping mechanism (1 Thessalonians 4:14). We can take encouragement from the fact that we will see believing loved ones again with Christ in Heaven.

# Discussion Starters

Use one or more of the following questions as discussion starters with your kids this week.

- What do you consider to be the most difficult losses to deal with in life?
- Why is losing a loved one such a difficult loss?
- What are some healthy ways to deal with the loss of a loved one or other difficult losses?
- What are some unhealthy ways to deal with difficult losses?
- Where can we find comfort and hope when dealing with difficult losses?
- Whom do you know that is currently dealing with a difficult loss? How could you help and encourage that person this week?
- **For Elementary:** How can the example of how Jacob and Esau's broken relationship was healed help you when you deal with hurt friendships?
- **For Elementary:** When you think about the son who returned home in Luke 15, do you think people often assume someone doesn't want to forgive them for their mistakes?
- **For Elementary:** How can you follow David's example of still praising God when you are hurting?

## Everyday Extras

Has your family lost a loved one in the past year? Maybe a relative, fellow church member, or someone from your community has passed away. Together, think of a significant way to honor and remember that person by doing something that would have made him or her happy. You might read the person's favorite book of the Bible together. You might sing a song or memorize a verse, draw a picture or do a craft. You might volunteer at a charity or local school. You might prepare the person's favorite dish and share it with a neighbor. You could invite others to join you at the person's favorite restaurant. Use this opportunity to talk together about grief and about Heaven. Remind your children that we can feel both happy and sad as we remember that person.

## Preschool Highlights for SQUARE 1 & ROUND 2

Today your child learned an angel visited both Mary and Joseph to tell them about the special baby Mary would give birth to. They were to name Him *Jesus*. **Jesus Is a Special Gift.**