



# THE PROMISE OF Peace

TALK IT OVER

## Know My Identity

Teaching Pastor  
April 14 2024

If you would like to watch the weekend message, visit [www.saddleback.com/watch](http://www.saddleback.com/watch).

Open your group in prayer and remember that this is only a guide. Feel free to discuss each of the provided questions, or simply dive deeper into just one. Before you close with prayer, take a few minutes to look over the Three Essential Questions toward the end of the document.

## Scriptures Used

John 14:27, John 16:33, Isaiah 26:3, Judges 6:7–14, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Genesis 3:11, Judges 5:31b, Judges 6:1-16

## Questions:

1. Read John 14:27, John 16:33, and Isaiah 26:33 aloud. God's promises are connected to our participation. According to the passages, how do we cultivate steadfast minds to experience God's peace?
2. Judges 6:14 (NLT) says, "Then the Lord turned to him and said, 'Go with the strength you have, and rescue Israel from the Midianites. I am sending you!'" Talk about a situation that seems overwhelming or difficult. How does knowing that God will provide the strength you need in this circumstance change your perspective?
3. "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here." 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV). God does not define us by our behavior, thoughts and circumstances, but by who we are in Christ. What parts of our identity, found in God's word, speak to you the most and why?
  - a. You are a child of God. (John 1:12)
  - b. You are made in God's image. (Genesis 1:27)
  - c. You are accepted. (Romans 15:7)
  - d. You are chosen. (John 15:16)
  - e. You are treasured by God. (Exodus 19:5)
  - f. You are free. (Galatians 4:7)

- g. You are forgiven. (1 John 1:9)
  - h. You belong to Jesus. (1 Corinthians 3:23)
  - i. You are a citizen of heaven. (Philippians 3:20)
  - j. You are protected by God. (1 Peter 1:5)
  - k. You are part of something important. (1 Corinthians 12:27)
  - l. You are loved no matter what. (Romans 8:38-39)
  - m. You are never alone. (Zephaniah 3:17)
  - n. You are wonderfully made. (Psalm 139:13-16)
  - o. You are precious to God. (Isaiah 43:4)
  - p. You are rescued. (Galatians 3:13)
  - q. You are heard by God. (1 John 5:14-15)
  - r. You are an heir of God. (Romans 8:17)
  - s. You are part of God's family. (Ephesians 2:19)
  - t. You are saved. (Romans 10:13)
  - u. You have the Holy Spirit in you. (1 Corinthians 6:19)
  - v. You are cared for by God. (Psalm 23:1-3)
  - w. You are invited to Jesus' joy. (John 15:11)
  - x. You are blessed. (Ephesians 1:3)
  - y. You are worth the cross to Jesus. (Galatians 2:20)
  - z. You are complete in Christ. (Colossians 2:10)
4. It's important to label lies about our identity that come from the enemy, the world and our own flesh. Discuss a lie you believe about yourself that conflicts with God's word about your identity in Christ? How do the verses listed in the previous question counteract those lies?
  5. Genesis 3:11 (NLT) says, "'Who told you that you were naked?' the Lord God asked. 'Have you eaten from the tree whose fruit I commanded you not to eat?'" Why is it important to pay attention to thoughts and precepts we pick up through our eyes, ears, environment, and experiences? Share a thought or attitude that may not be aligned with God's word. How can we override the voices that tell us everything we're not and everything we don't have to allow us to focus on God's voice?
  6. Gideon allowed his fears and doubts to overwhelm him from taking on the task that God assigned him. What fears and anxieties do you need to give up to God to experience his peace and strength?
  7. Judges 6:16 (NLT) says, "The Lord said to him, 'I will be with you. And you will destroy the Midianites as if you were fighting against one man.'" How does knowing that God is always with and for us embolden us to trust and obey him? What is God asking you to do to step out in faith?

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Are you interested in the Bible and in helping small groups benefit from the weekend message? Well, you are in luck! Saddleback members like you create these discussion guides each week. If you are interested in joining the team, please email [Maturity@saddleback.com](mailto:Maturity@saddleback.com)

## Three Essential Questions

The following questions are intended to be open-ended and encourage members to consider how they felt and what they, or the group, can do as a result of hearing the message.

1. **What did you hear?** *What point in this message was most impactful for you?*
2. **What do you think?** *How did this message challenge, change, or affirm your thinking?*
3. **What will you do?** *How will you or your group put into practice what you've learned today?*

## Small Group Action Steps

1. Consider taking the Group Health Assessment in your small group. This assessment will help you see how your small group is balancing the five purposes and will give you suggested next steps for each purpose. Click here to take the Group Health Assessment:

<https://saddleback.com/connect/smallgroups#spiritualCheckup>

2. Did you know that Saddleback produces many new small group studies each year? Visit <https://saddleback.com/studies> to check out Saddleback's ever-growing library of small group curriculum.

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