

# WEEK 1

## **MAIN IDEA**

God wants us to know what will happen in the final judgment and face the future with faith rather than fear.

### **STARTER**

Name one or two of your biggest phobias.

## **DISCUSS**

When you think about the future beyond this earth, do you find yourself more scared or hopeful? Why?

#### **READ**

God says a lot about dealing with fear in our lives. The phrase "fear not" is found 189 times in the Bible because God wants to help us face our fears and find courage to overcome them.

- Read <u>2 Timothy 1:7</u> and <u>2 Peter 3:10-12</u> and discuss: how does your faith in Christ impact the way you deal with fear?
- Have you noticed any ways fear has crept into your life during this COVID season? How could you be more bold in your faith?

Have some different people read each of the following verses (<u>Ecclesiastes 12:14</u>, <u>Revelation 20:13</u>, 1 Peter 1:17, Hebrews 9:27) about the final judgment and discuss:

- What do these verses say about God's judgement?
- When you think about the future beyond this earth, have you ever struggled with any of these fears? Explain your answer.
  - o Unsure if I will get into Heaven (forgiveness)
  - o The list of wrongs I have done being shown to me (shame)
  - o Not having good deeds to show for in Heaven (a wasted life)

## **APPLY**

What would it look like in your life to let go of fear and live with more God-given "love, power, and self discipline?"

As we close, let's remind each other of the truth of the Gospel and encourage each other to live boldly for our faith. Someone read, <u>Ephesians 2:1-10</u> and then let's spend some time praying for each other.

