

S.A.F.E. Homes



“Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.”

1 Peter 2:17

Citizens of Two Countries

The Apostle Peter covered a lot of territory in just a few words when he said, “Honor all men, love your brothers in the Lord, fear God and give honor to government leaders.” Peter, writing to the church under the anointing of the Holy Ghost, must have felt that this was something we would need to be reminded to do.

How easy it is to get caught up in the frenzy of elections and social issues and forget that our King, Jesus Christ, is still ruler over all and that we are called to live as Christians even when the world is in chaos. Someone has wisely said, “When you are praying, you’re not worrying, and when you are worrying, you’re not praying.” The two just don’t go hand-in-hand.

Imagine the environment in Israel when Jesus walked on this earth. Not only did Roman soldiers and government leaders occupy the country, the Jewish leaders constantly fought against him and his followers. Trying to trip him up one day, someone asked Jesus what he thought of paying the required taxes. Jesus’ answer was simple, “Render (give back to) therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar’s; and unto God the things that are God’s,” (Matthew 22:21).

As citizens of two countries, the present one and the one to come, we are called on to live responsibly and honorably in this world no matter the circumstances. The Apostle Paul declared, “I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty,” (I Timothy 2:1-2).

Now, as much as at any time in history, we need to remember to pray for those in leadership, both in the world and in the church.

Family Prayer: *Lord Jesus, please help me to be a reflection of You no matter what is going on in our world. Give me wisdom to know how to live on earth while preparing for that heavenly kingdom. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.*



Includes
Family
Activities



Want more?
Scroll down for
Bonus Pages



For family night this week, you could bake homemade cookies. Provide different items for decorating (icing, sprinkles, chocolate chips, jelly beans, etc.) When everyone is finished decorating, cast votes for most creative, prettiest, and most unusual. Have fun eating the results!

Let's talk

There have always been conflicting standards between the world's beliefs and God's principles. Discuss some that you see in our own society. We have to remember that God's way is always right!

Be a voice of calm and hope in this chaotic world. Thank God that you live in a country that still has freedom of worship. Instead of cursing the darkness, be a light. Remember to pray daily for those in our world who live in fear of their lives because of their commitment to Jesus.



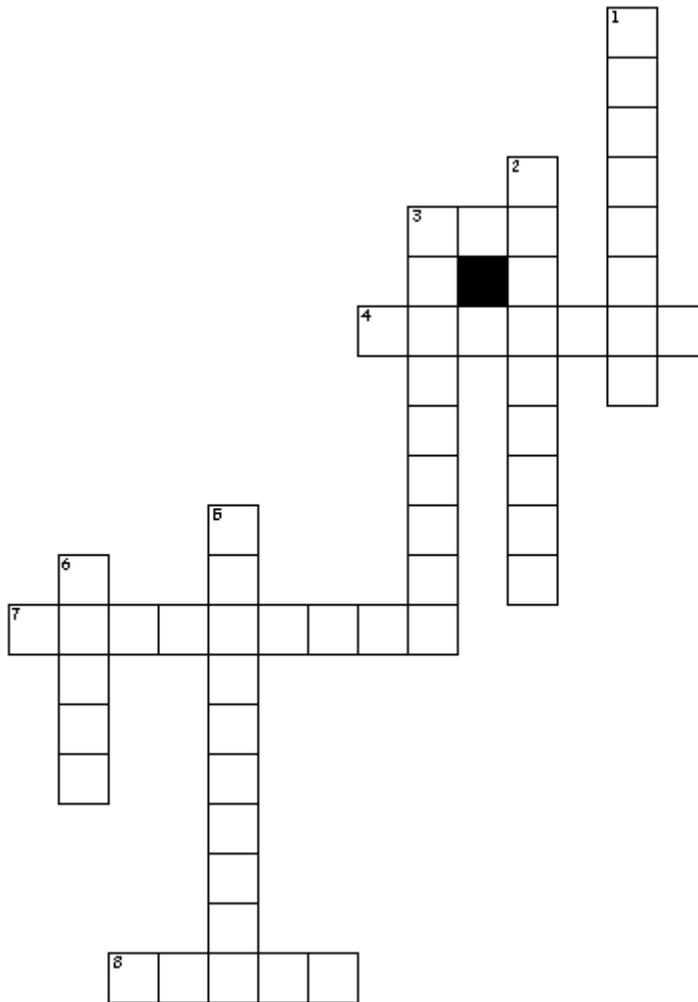
Additional Challenges

There are numerous examples in the Bible of God's people interacting with government leaders. Let's check out one of them.

Daniel, chapter 3

- Name the 3 young men talked about in this story.
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
- Who was the king at the time? _____
- What did the king want everyone to do?
 - _____
- What was their response?
 - "We are not _____ (hesitant) to answer thee in this matter. If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to _____ us from the burning fiery _____, and he _____ deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But _____, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not _____, nor _____ the golden image which thou hast set up.
- The furnace was heated up ____ times hotter than usual.
- What happened to the men who threw the Hebrew boys into the furnace?
 - _____
- What amazing thing did the king see when he looked in the furnace? (vs. 25)
 - _____
- What did the government people notice about the young men in the fire?
 - The fire had no _____
 - Their hair was not _____
 - Their coats had not _____
 - There was no smell of _____ on them.
- What did the king do for Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, in the province of Babylon?
 - _____

Puzzle Page

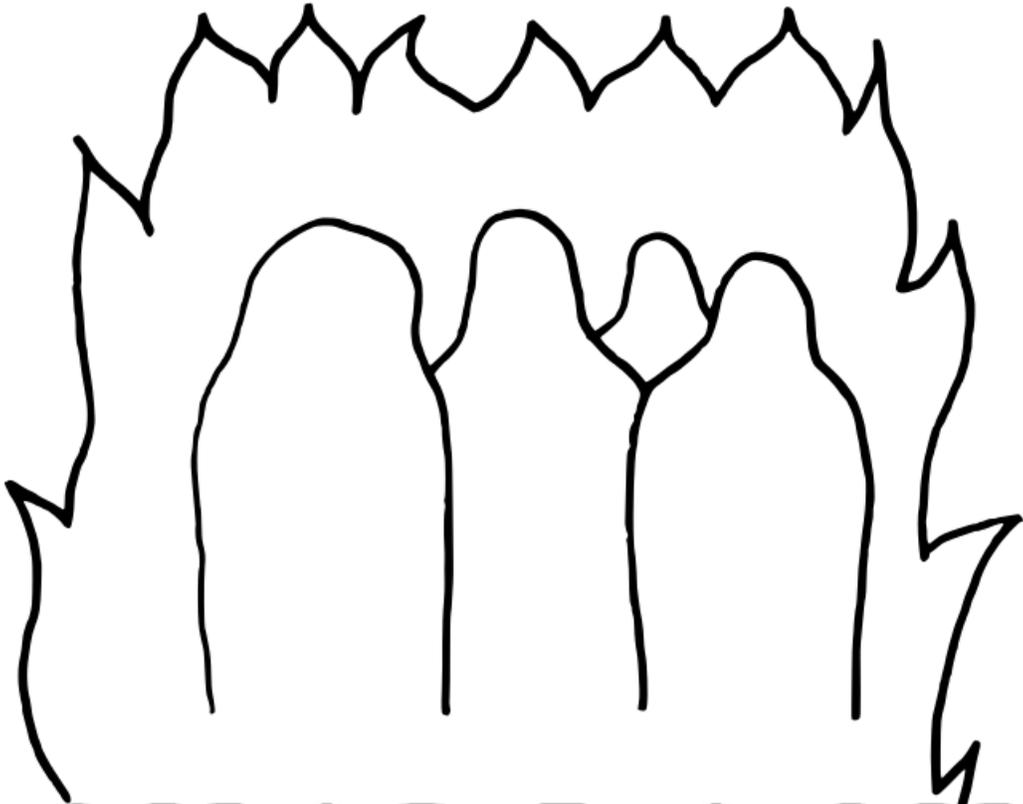


Across

3. We are citizens of ___ countries
4. "when you're ___, you're not worrying"
7. We are called on to live responsibly and ___ while on this earth
8. ___ is still ruler over all despite any election result

Down

1. "when you're ___, you're not praying"
2. Peter wrote to the church under the anointing of the ___
3. Peter covered a lot of ___ with his words
5. We are called to live as ___
6. ___ soldiers occupied Israel during Jesus' time



SHADRACH
MESHACH
ABEDNEGO