



TALKING WITH KIDS ABOUT THE CORONAVIRUS

In a time that is so uncertain, it is easy to feel fear rise within us and within our kids. We, at Village Kids, are with you in a time that is unknown. Jesus gave his followers these words, *"I leave you peace. My peace I give you. I do not give it to you as the world does. So don't let your hearts be troubled. Don't be afraid."* - John 14:27 (ICB) We believe that God is with us and God's peace is real even in times of anxiety and stress. In the days to come, our prayer is that you and your children might be able to use the extra time you have together to talk, to connect and to grow closer to God. As you do so, we pray you feel God's peace and presence with you.

We want to resource and support you as you talk with kids about the events of our world. Kids need safe space with the loving adults of their lives to discuss their thoughts, questions and fears in age-appropriate ways.

- **Stay calm.** Seek ways to process your own fears and anxiety so that you can remain a calm presence for your child.
- **Reassure children that they are safe.**
- **Talk with them about ways to stay healthy.**
- **Share only age-appropriate information.**
- **Pray together and talk about your own faith.** Point to Jesus and share how your own faith in God provides a source of strength, comfort and courage. Remember that you are the greatest influence of your child's faith life.

We invite you to check out the conversation tips and guides linked here as you enter these important conversations. (Click links below for resources)

- **Child Mind Institute- Talking With Kids About the Coronavirus**
- **PBS Kids- How to Talk with Kids About the Coronavirus**
- **Preschool Crisis Talk Points for Families**
- **Elementary Crisis Talk Points for Families**

We are here for you and are praying for you and your families. If there are specific ways that the team at The Village or I can pray for you, we would love to connect with you. God is with you and we love you.

With Peace,
Joanna Cummings
Children's Pastor, The Village Church

