

6th Grade Devotional 5



Read Philippians 4:6-7 & Proverbs 4:23

There is one thing you can count on during this season of your life...your emotions will be totally unpredictable! You will experience feelings that are totally unfamiliar and the feelings that you recognize will be so intense you will sometimes think you are going to explode. Sometimes you will act out because you want to be seen. At other times you will want to crawl under a rock because you feel like everyone is staring at you. That is why you always need to rely on God's Word for direction in these unpredictable times.

When you feel anxious, nervous, or self-conscious, remember that God tells us to ask Him for help and He will give us peace. We don't have to understand it. In fact, He tells us it's beyond what we can understand. We just need to have faith and be thankful for the way He helps us.

In **Luke 15** we read the story of a young man who had apparently grown anxious over his situation at home.

We don't know if he felt unappreciated, unloved, or had just decided that his father was not a very smart man, but for some reason, this young man decided it was time for him to ask for his inheritance and leave.

Away from the discipline and structure of home, he made some really bad decisions and it wasn't long before he was out of money and living in squalor. He had spent little time asking God for help or even thinking about guarding his heart. Following his feelings and own desires had led to nothing but trouble. He was so far in...What could he do?

He decided to humble himself, ask his father for forgiveness and seek a position as a servant in his father's house. Finally! A wise decision based on God's Word! When he returned, his father was so glad to see him that he had a huge celebration to announce the return of his son. Yes, I said the return of his SON, not the addition of a new servant. There is forgiveness for the times we mess up. But the best thing is to make the right choice to begin with; to "guard our heart, for it is the well spring of life."

Parents:

You can help with this. **Psalm 78:4** says, *"We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, His power and the wonders He has done."* Make sure your student knows how God has worked in your own life and the wonderful things He has done for your family.