



PEACE | WEEK 2 | APRIL 10-11, 2021

2nd-3rd Lesson

Give Me Peace on Earth

Life App: Peace—Proving you care more about each other than winning an argument

Bible Story: Give Me Peace on Earth (Live in Peace with Others) • *Colossians 3:15*

Bottom Line: We can make peace with others.

Basic Truth: I am made by God to reflect His Image.

Memory Verse: So let us do all we can to live in peace. And let us work hard to build up one another. Romans 14:19 (NirV)

**KID CONNECT:
10 MINUTES**

**LARGE GROUP:
30 MINUTES**

**SMALL GROUP:
20 MINUTES**

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

When Adam and Eve decided that their way was better than God's way and broke God's rule, they changed the relationship between God and His creation. When once everything and everyone could be in the presence of God, now we were at odds with God. God could have done anything He wanted, including wiping us out and starting over. But instead, God decided to make peace with us. Ultimately God did this through His Son, Jesus. When Jesus rose from the dead, He paid the price for everything that was wrong and unfair in this world. Because of Jesus, we can have peace. We don't have to get even. Instead, we can reflect the character of Christ by caring for others and making peace.

In week two, we look closer at something else Paul wrote in **Colossians 3:15**: Let the peace that Christ gives rule in your hearts. As parts of one body, you were appointed to live in peace. And be thankful, (NirV). Because Jesus made peace with us, we can turn around and show that same peace to others.

Bottom Line: **We can make peace with others.** When God made peace with us through Jesus, God showed us that peace with others is possible. This doesn't mean that it will be easy, but peace is worth the effort it takes to make it. We pray that kids will discover the ways they can live at peace with the people in their life.

KID CONNECT

WELCOME TIME

(VIDEO: INTRO MUSIC)

Play intro music and greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to fill out attendance sheets, and help new kids connect to your group.

OPENING ACTIVITY:

(Beach Ball or Balloon)

What You Do:

- Direct any kids who haven't used hand sanitizer yet, to do so.
- Lead kids in a game of "Keep It Up," challenging them to keep the beach ball in the air as long as possible with only their hands.
- If necessary, keep kids a safe distance apart by guiding them to stand on carpet squares or inside hula hoops.

What You Say:

"You guys did a great job working together to keep the beach ball in the air! *[Transition]* Let's go to Large Group where we'll hear about something else we can work together to do."

LARGE GROUP

COUNTDOWN AND WELCOME

(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN, SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS)

Show the countdown video as you transition to Large Group. Set it to end as the session begins. *The Large Group Leader has lots of energy as he or she welcomes everyone to KidCity. The LGL is relatable and inviting. LGLs can talk about something that happened culturally throughout the week like a big sports game, movie opening, a viral video on YouTube, holiday, etc. The LGL tells them how excited he or she is that they're there and briefly runs through what they can expect. This is especially helpful for first-time guests to make them feel like they know what's happening.*

LGL: Welcome everyone! I'm so glad you are able to come hang out with us in KidCity today. My name is [INSERT NAME]. We are going to have a lot of fun today by playing a game, singing some incredible songs that worship God, and then we are going to hear an amazing true story from God's Word, the Bible.

But first, let's quickly go over our KidCity Expectations (rules) so we can make sure that we make the most of our time today: *(Don't dwell on these too long, but make sure you review them briefly so we can set everyone up for success.)*

1. Be Kind – We need to be kind with our words and actions to our friends, leaders, and the space that we are using
2. Be Safe – Make wise choices with your actions and words

3. Have Fun – Participate in what we are doing! It’s no fun just sitting there...

Now that we know our expectations, let’s kick off our day with a game!

LARGE GROUP GAME

BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATER

(Tape, 2 Towels per small group)

LGL: “Hey, everybody! Let me tell you something. Today is a great day! My name is [your name], and I’m so glad you’re here!

“This month we’re talking about peace.

(SLIDE: LIFE APP)

“Peace is proving you care more about each other than winning an argument.

(SLIDE: THEME)

“When you make peace with someone, it’s like you’re building a bridge. You won’t let ANYTHING come between you. You find a way to make it across the gap (*demonstrate with your hands*) so you can make things right and be friends again.

“For our game today, we’re building a bridge over troubled water. I need each small group to send your leader and two kids from your group.

Bring up the leader and two kids from each small group. Have them stand on one side of the tape “river” on the floor. Give two towels to each leader.

“Here’s how the game works. Each team has two towels. With only those towels, they have to get from one side of the ‘river’ (*point to the tape river on the floor*) to the other.

“That might sound easy enough . . . but here’s the catch. Your feet must be on one of the towels at all times—all three of you. If anyone’s foot touches the river at any point, the whole team has to go back to the start. So you need to work together to make it across!

(*to audience*) “Everyone else has a job, too. Your job is to cheer for your friends from your group, and for ALL of our teams to make it across. Got it? (*Pause.*) Okay, let’s cross that river. Ready, set, go!

(AUDIO: FUN MUSIC)

Provide funny commentary as the teams compete. They need to coordinate with each other to stand on one towel while laying out the other one then repeat the process to make it across. Recognize and celebrate teams as they reach the other side of the river.

“That was seriously impressive! Let’s give all of our teams a round of applause as they head back to their seats.

Collect the towels as you dismiss the kids and leaders to their seats.

“Now it’s time for all of us to jump to our feet and get ready to sing and praise God together!”

WORSHIP

(VIDEO: RISE AND SING, THIS IS LIVING NOW)

BIBLE STORY

(SLIDES: LIFE APP, BOTTOM LINE, MEMORY VERSE, BASIC TRUTH; VIDEO: BIBLE STORY)

(Bible)

LGL: This month we are talking about the importance of Peace. We are defining our Life App as...

(LIFE APP SLIDE) “Peace is proving you care more about each other than winning an argument.”

“Peace is like building a bridge. If there is a conflict between you and someone else, then making peace with that person is bridging the gap between you two. You have to work together to find a compromise. Think about it this way...your body is made up of many different parts. You have eyes that do one thing, hands that do another, and feet that do something completely different! Despite their differences, they all still work together to help you move through the world.

Let me read this Bible verse to you...

Open the Bible to Colossians 3:15 (NIRV) and read.

“Let the peace that Christ gives rule in your hearts. As parts of one body, you were appointed to live in peace. And be thankful.

Let’s watch our story today and see what living out this verse may look like today.

(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY)

The peace that God gives us will make us want to make peace with others. After all, God set the example when He made peace with us by sending Jesus. And BECAUSE God made peace with us...

(SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE) “We can make peace with others.”

“Every day, we have a choice to make. Are we going to try to have everything OUR way? Or are we willing to put that aside so we can make peace with others? Let’s choose to treat others the way we want to be treated. Let’s live like one body. Let’s live in peace. When we choose to live in peace, we are doing our Basic Truth for today.

(SLIDE: BASIC TRUTH) I am made by God to reflect His Image.

Because we are made by God in His image, we can make peace with others the way that God makes peace with us.

MEMORY VERSE

(SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE)

Our monthly verse says this:

So let us do all we can to live in peace. And let us work hard to build up one another.
Romans 14:19 (NirV)

Choosing daily to make peace with each other is HARD WORK! But with God's help, we can do it. Let's pray together.

PRAYER

LGL: "God, thank You for making peace with us by sending Your Son, Jesus. It can be hard for us to get along when we feel frustrated or annoyed with each other . . . or when we want things to go OUR way. When that happens, help us remember what You've done for us. Help us follow Your example and do everything we can to make peace with others. We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

DISMISS TO SMALL GROUPS

SMALL GROUP

Life App: Peace—Proving you care more about each other than winning an argument

Bible Story: Give Me Peace on Earth (Live in Peace with Others) • *Colossians 3:15*

Bottom Line: We can make peace with others.

Basic Truth: I am made by God to reflect His Image.

Memory Verse: So let us do all we can to live in peace. And let us work hard to build up one another. Romans 14:19 (NirV)

BUILD IT!

(**"Structure Diagram" Activity Page, Toothpicks, Marshmallows**)

What You Do:

- Give each kid a "Structure Diagram" card. Have kids pair up if needed.
 - *If your group is on the younger side, consider working together to build a structure.*
- Hand out marshmallows and toothpicks to each kid based on the quantity indicated on their particular card.
- Instruct the kids to build the structure shown on their card with their toothpicks and marshmallows. Consider setting a 3-4 minute timer so the activity doesn't run long. You will definitely want time for discussion. If kids want to play again, instruct them that you can do so at the end of small group if there's time.

What You Say:

“Can you name some skills you needed to build your complicated structures? *(Pause for responses.)* That’s right! It took a lot of hard work, patience, and perseverance to build these structures. Those skills also allow you to live in peace with each other. Is building peace with others always easy? *(No.)* You’re right! Building peace is not always easy, but it’s the right choice, no matter how difficult it might be.

“When God’s peace is in our hearts, it makes us want to live in peace with others. What are some ways we can make peace with others? *(Pause for responses.)* Those are some great ideas! God wants us to take the first step to fix a problem. This might feel scary or unfair, but He promises to help and honor you for your efforts. **[Bottom Line] We can make peace with others.**”

Note: You might have a kid in your small group who is being hurt or taken advantage of by a peer on a regular basis. They might find it easier to give up, not engage, and even walk away from an argument, but at a sacrifice. Assure them that it’s okay to stand up for themselves and to ask someone they trust to help them develop the necessary skills to navigate being taken advantage of.

A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE

(Paper – 1 sheet per kid)

What You Do:

- Hand a blank piece of paper to each kid.
- Ask the kids to sit in a circle facing outwards with their eyes closed.
- Explain that you will give some step-by-step instructions for them to follow.
- Instruct the kids NOT to ask any questions while you do the activity.
- If a kid is confused about the instructions, instruct them to continue the activity as THEY understand the directions.
- Direct the kids to do the following steps:
 - Fold the paper in half.
 - Fold the paper in half again.
 - Tear off the bottom right corner.
 - Turn the paper upside down.
 - Tear off the other bottom right corner.
- When you have told them all of the instructions, ask the kids to open their eyes and hold their paper up so everyone can see everyone else’s paper.

What You Say:

“Look around. What do you notice? Everyone’s paper looks different, doesn’t it? How did you feel when you saw what your paper looked like compared to everyone else’s? Did anyone think you did it wrong when you saw how others did theirs? I gave everyone the same instructions, yet everyone’s paper looks different! There were a lot of different ways to interpret my instructions.

“In the same way, there can be a lot of different ways to think about the same situation or conflict. What you think is unfair, someone else might think is totally fair. When you’re in the middle of a conflict, it’s wise to slow down and try to look at it from the other person’s side. **[Bottom Line]**

We can make peace with others when we take the time to listen to other people's ideas rather than insisting we are right."

[Make it Personal] (Share about a time when you had a conflict with someone and chose to make peace with them. Were you the first to apologize? Did you compromise? Did you listen more intently to gain a different perspective? Did you find a solution that satisfied everyone? Help kids see that they're designed to be creative and can initiate the peacemaking process by letting God guide their hearts.)

DISCUSSION

Ask the following questions and lead the group to discuss:

- When is it hard to live in peace? What are things that can keep us from showing peace to others?
- How can the peace God gives you help you live in peace to others?
- What does it look like to live in peace with others?
- What can you do when you are struggling to show peace to others? Who can you talk to when you need help figuring out how to show peace?

PRAY AND DISMISS

(2nd/3rd GodTime Card - 1 per kid)

What You Say:

"Dear God, thank You for making us to work together. Thank You for making us to live in peace with others. Please, help us share. Help us put others first. Help us be the first to say we're sorry. Thank You that when we can share the peace You give us, **[Bottom Line] we can make peace with others.** Amen."

Pass out the GodTime Cards to each kid. If there's spare time, encourage kids to start looking over their GodTime card and point out how it relates to today's lesson.