



PEACE | WEEK 3 | APRIL 17-18, 2021

K-1 Lesson

War and Peace

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

Bible Story: War and Peace (Isaac's Wells) • *Genesis 26:1-6, 12-22, 26-31*

Bottom Line: You can show you care about others by walking away from a fight.

Basic Truth: I am made for a purpose so the Holy Spirit will help me do big things now.

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.

For week three, we head back to **Genesis 26:1-6, 12-22, 26-31**. Isaac moved to a region where he reclaimed the wells that had belonged to his father, Abraham. For years no one had cared about the wells until they were reopened, then everyone started fighting over them. Instead of fighting, Isaac decided to give away the wells in order to make peace. Isaac simply walked away from what was rightfully his. And by walking away from the fight, those people changed their opinion about Isaac, and decided to trust him.

Bottom Line: You can show you care about others by walking away from a fight. Sometimes creating peace with someone means walking away even if we're not wrong. Often it takes a stronger person to have the self control to walk away. We pray that kids will learn how they can choose peace when they want to argue and fight.

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:

(No Supplies)

What You Do:

- Direct kids to stand in a circle.
- Stomp various rhythms, leading kids to imitate your pattern.
- Examples:
 - Left (L), Left (L), Right (R)
 - L, R, L
 - R, R, L, L
 - L, R, L, R
 - L, L, R, L
 - R, R, R, L, R
- Adjust the challenge according to the ability of your group.

What You Say:

“You guys did a great job moving to the rhythms - even when they were hard! *[Transition]* In Large Group, we’ll learn about a man who had to move in ways that were hard in order to have peace! Let’s go learn more.”

LARGE GROUP

COUNTDOWN AND WELCOME

(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN, 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

CAN YOU DIG IT?

(3 Blindfolds, 3 Large Plastic Bins, Filler Material, 15 Mini Water Bottles)

LGL: “Hi, friends! How’s it going? If you’re having a good day, give me a thumbs-up. *(Do a thumbs-up.)* Well, no matter how your day is going, it’s about to get even better! We’re having a ton of fun this month as we learn how God can help us make 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, you show how much you care about them. It’s like you’re building a bridge *(demonstrate with your hands)*, so you can reconnect with them and make things right again.

“Our story today is about some guys digging for water. So I thought we could play a fun digging game as we get started. Let’s see . . . I need three leaders to come up here and play.

Bring up three Small Group Leaders to play the game on stage. Have each leader stand behind one of the large plastic bins.

(to the three contestants) “Thanks for playing, leaders. As you can see, each of you has a bin full of [filler material is in your bins]. Somewhere in each bin are five mini water bottles. When I say go, you’ll dig into the bins and try to be the first to find all five bottles. The first person to find all of them, wins. Oh—and I almost forgot. You’ll be blindfolded!

Hand a blindfold to each contestant and give them a chance to put them on.

“All right, leaders. *(to audience)* We’ll all be cheering for you. Won’t we? Okay, let’s get this game started! Three, two, one, DIG!

(AUDIO: FUN MUSIC)

Provide funny commentary as the leaders dig around for the water bottles. As they find the bottles, line them up in front of the bins so the kids can easily see the score. Declare the winner when one leader successfully finds all five bottles.

“Wow! Are these leaders amazing or what? Let’s give them a hand as they head back to their seats.

Collect the blindfolds as you dismiss the leaders to their seats.

“[Leaders’ names] worked so hard to dig for the water, just like some guys in the story today. But before we get to that, let’s all get ready to sing and praise God together.”

WORSHIP

(VIDEO: THIS IS LIVING NOW, BURN)

BIBLE STORY

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

(Bible)

LGL: “Let’s remind ourselves of our definition for the Life App, Peace.

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

“You know what, that’s what we are learning about today...when should you walk away from a fight? If we are being honest, we’ve *all* had times where we get in an argument with someone and you both get madder and madder until you forget in the moment that you are supposed to love each other. What if instead of jumping right into an argument, you look for a peaceful response when someone makes you mad? Let’s watch what the Bible has to say about it.”

(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY)

It’s important for us to make peace with the people around us. Isaac certainly thought that was true.

“I mean, think about it. It wasn’t fair that the Philistines were so mean to Isaac. It would have been really easy for him to be mean back. But instead, Isaac walked away. He chose to make peace. And because of that, the Philistines trusted him enough to make a peace treaty—so they wouldn’t have any more disagreements in the future. Remember...

(SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE) “You can show you care about others by walking away from a fight.”

“If you’re frustrated or mad, and you’re not sure you can walk away, stop and think for a minute. Think about Jesus. Remember what He did for us. Jesus died on the cross because He knew it was part of God’s plan. He knew it was the only way to make peace with us, once and for all.

“And don’t forget—sometimes it IS important to stand up for yourself. Peace doesn’t mean that you have to give up what’s right. If you’re in a tough situation, and you aren’t sure what to do, you can always talk to your mom or dad, your Small Group Leader, your teacher, or another adult who can help. However you choose to have peace, it’s a BIG deal. Our Basic Truth says,

(SLIDE: BASIC TRUTH) I am made for a purpose so the Holy Spirit will help me do big things now.

“When we accept Jesus as our Friend and Savior, the Holy Spirit – who is God – helps us do things that honor God and might feel impossible on our own. Choosing to love others and walking away from a fight is best done with God’s help. God is faithful and will help us when we ask.

“Let’s say our verse together before we pray.”

MEMORY VERSE

(SLIDE: 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)*

Let’s pray together.

PRAYER

“Dear God, thank You so much for giving Isaac the strength to make peace. It probably wasn’t easy for him to walk away when the Philistines were causing trouble. Please help us choose peace like he did. Help us know when it’s wise to stand up and when it’s wise to walk away. We love You, and we pray 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: War and Peace (Isaac's Wells) • *Genesis 26:1-6, 12-22, 26-31*

Bottom Line: You can show you care about others by walking away from a fight.

Basic Truth: I am made for a purpose so the Holy Spirit will help me do big things now.

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)

WELL, WELL, WELL

(4 Hula Hoops [Or Paper])

What You Do:

- Set the hula hoops (or pieces of paper if supplies are low) at four “corners” of your small group area. These are the “wells.”
- Lead kids in a mash-up of “sardines” and “four corners.”
- Stand in the center of your circle and guide kids to mingle around you as you close your eyes.
- Count down from ten to one.
- As you count, kids choose a hula hoop, move to it, and stand with one foot touching it. (Adjust this detail as needed, based on how many kids you have. If you have more than eight kids, instruct kids to stand “near” the hoop so they’re able to spread out a bit and not stand right next to each other.)
- When you say, “One,” kids must freeze.
- Point to one of the hoops, open your eyes, and say, “I’m going to fill this well with dirt!” The children in that hoop must quickly move to one of the other hoops.
- Remove the chosen hoop from play and begin another round.
- For the second and third rounds, say, “This well is mine!” as you point to the hoops.
- Play until all kids are standing around one hoop.

What You Say:

“The Philistines filled Isaac’s wells with dirt then took two wells from him! Was that fair? *(No!)* Isaac could have chosen to fight the Philistines, but instead he chose to stay strong and walk away—THREE TIMES IN A ROW! And because Isaac chose not to fight, God blessed him with peace. God wants us to make peace, too. One way we can make peace is to walk away from a fight. Sometimes that can be really hard, but God can help us.

[Make It Personal] (Tell kids about a time you chose to walk away from a fight. You may have ignored someone who teased you, kept quiet when someone called you a name, or not argued when your brother or sister took something that was yours. If possible, tell how God helped you walk away and how walking away showed God’s love to the other person.)

[Bottom Line] “You can show you care about others by walking away from a fight.”

PEACE IS BETTER

(Small Ball)

What You Do:

- Help kids apply hand sanitizer.
- Stand in the middle of your environment and guide kids to gather around you. If you have tables or chairs, move them to the side if possible.
- Briefly unpack the truth that sometimes we need to stand up for ourselves and others. Like Isaac, we can also be strong enough to walk away from a fight—even if it means that we don't get what we want. Peace is better for everyone.
- Read a scenario below, then toss the ball into the air.
- Guide kids to quickly walk away from the fight (the ball).
 - Someone makes a face at you in the cafeteria.
 - Someone cuts in front of you in line.
 - At a party, there are four cookies left. The kid in front of you takes THREE!
 - While you're at the park, someone calls you a name.
 - When your sister divides the leftover Easter candy, she takes more for herself and doesn't give you as much as she has.
 - The kid behind you on the bus keeps kicking the seat, trying to annoy you.
 - At recess, someone pushes by you to get the last swing.
- When you catch or retrieve the ball again, call out, "FREEZE!"
- Guide kids to fill in the blanks as you say the Bottom Line :You can show you care about others by walking _____ from a _____. As kids learn the Bottom Line, you can also omit "care" and "others."
- Guide kids to return to the center between rounds.

What You Say:

[Bottom Line] "You can show you care about others by walking away from a fight. Sometimes that can be hard, but God can help you. You can walk away from a fight when someone calls you a name. You can walk away from a fight when someone cuts in line. And you can walk away from a fight when something isn't fair.

"Now, there are times when you DO need to stand up for what's right. Like if someone is unkind to your friends, if someone is being a bully, or if someone hurts you or someone else. If you aren't sure when to stand up and when to walk away, talk to an adult you trust. They can help."

DISCUSSION

Ask the following questions and lead the group to discuss:

- How do you know when you should walk away from a fight?
- How can you peacefully disagree with someone? (*This allows for the discussion that we can disagree with people and still care about them. It is when winning the argument is more important than caring for the person that the disagreement become "un-peaceful."*)
- What can you do when you try to live in peace and it still seems like things aren't peaceful?
- Is there ever a time when you *shouldn't* walk away from a fight? (*Ask kids to give an example if they say yes. Ask "why not" if they say no.*)

PRAY AND DISMISS

(K/1st GodTime Card, Crayons or Markers)

What You Say:

“THREE times Isaac chose to walk away from a fight. He kept digging new wells until the Philistines stopped arguing with him and God gave him peace. **[Bottom Line]** You can show you care about others by walking away from a fight, too. Can you walk away when someone says something unkind to you? (Yes.) Can you walk away when someone doesn't treat you fairly? (Yes.) Let's pray and ask God to help us walk away from a fight.

“Dear Jesus, You loved us SO much that long ago that You chose to walk away from a fight. You let Yourself be arrested and put to death on the cross, even though You hadn't done anything wrong and You had the power to stop it. You did it to make peace with us, once and for all. Thank You that with Your help, we can walk away from a fight, even when it's hard. We love You, Lord. Amen.”

Pass out the GodTime card to each kid. If there's spare time, the kids can start coloring their GodTime Card.