



PEACE | WEEK 1 | APRIL 3-4, 2021

Virtual K-3 Lesson

Alive

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

Bible Story: Alive (Easter/God’s Big Story) • Colossians 1:20 and John 20:1-18

Bottom Line: God made peace with us.

Basic Truth: I am loved by God no matter what so I can belong in God’s family forever.

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)

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.

We kick off the month with something Paul writes about Jesus in **Colossians 1:20** and **John 20:1-18**. On Easter Sunday, we want to make sure that kids know how they can have a relationship with Jesus. Throughout the entire Bible, we see God’s plan to make peace with us. In the second part the Colossians verse, Paul reminds us that it’s through what Jesus did on the cross that the world can be right with God again.

Bottom Line: **God made peace with us.** God went to great lengths to fix what was wrong between us and Him. When God looked across humanity and saw the brokenness of our relationship with Him, He proved He cared about us by sending Jesus, His only Son to die— to build a bridge and resolve the conflict that existed. Now, Jesus is alive, and we can have a relationship with God that lasts forever.

SMALL GROUP

SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY AND DISCUSSION

(Building Supplies, Paper, Markers)

What You Do:

- As kids join the meeting and get settled, engage them in conversation about the past week.
- If you choose, consider doing some ice breaker questions with your group (how was your week, would you rather..., etc.)
- Practice saying the memory verse together.
- If you've chosen to watch the Bible story video presentation as a group (Find video at theparenthub.net), get that started once you've given latecomers a chance to join the meeting, and once the group feels settled.

What You Do:

- Guide kids to build a bridge structure using the materials they have.
 - They can place two plastic cups upside down and connect them with popsicle sticks.
 - Or they could build two small towers out of marshmallows and toothpicks, and then connect the two towers.
 - They could use LEGO bricks to construct two towers and then build a bridge between them.
- Encourage them to get creative and to build their bridges directly in front of their devices so everyone can see each other's work.
- Give kids a two- or three-minute warning before it's time for them to stop working.
- Allow them a few moments to share their ideas and congratulate each other on their hard work.
- Review today's story, using the following questions.
 - Who created Earth and everything in it? (*God*)
 - Who were the first two people living peacefully in paradise? (*Adam and Eve*)
 - What happened to peace once Adam and Eve didn't listen to God and ate from the tree? (*they were separated from Him; the relationship was broken*)
 - What separates people from God? (*sin—when they choose not to follow Him*)
 - Who had a plan to make peace once again after Adam and Eve broke the rule? (*God*)
 - Who came to Earth as a baby and died to bring peace on Earth? (*Jesus*)
 - After Jesus died, what happened that proved how powerful He is? (*He rose from the dead*)
 - How can you have peace with God? (*through Jesus*)
- Instruct kids to write "God" on a small piece of paper and "Me" on another small piece of paper.
- Ask them to use tape to stick the "God" sign on one side of their bridge and the "Me" sign on the other.
- *Lead the conversation towards what it means to have Jesus as your friend and Savior. Tell them how you came to trust Jesus as your friend and Savior. Remember, kids learn best through stories. Don't be afraid to tell them yours! If you have a kid accept Jesus as their friend and Savior, GREAT! Be sure to bring the kid's parents and your coordinator into the conversation.*

What You Say:

"Building a sturdy bridge is hard work! You guys did a great job. There is distance between the 'God' side of your bridge and the 'Me' side. Our sin separates us from God, putting distance between Him and us. When Jesus died on the cross, He paid the price for our sin. He made a bridge between us and God. His death means that our sins are paid for and we can have a close relationship with God that will last forever. This is how **[Bottom Line] God made peace with us!**"

DISCUSSION

Ask the following questions and lead the group to discuss:

- How did God make peace with us?
- Why does Easter matter? Why do we celebrate Easter?

- What changed for us when Jesus died?
- What is it important that the tomb was empty, that Jesus didn't "stay dead"?

Close your group in prayer:

"God, thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, to save us from our sins and build a bridge between You and us. We are so grateful that You've always had a plan to make a way for us to have a relationship with You and experience peace. Help us grow in our relationship with You every day. As we go home and celebrate Easter, remind us that the reason we celebrate is because **[Bottom Line] God made peace with us.**"