



PEACE | WEEK 3 | APRIL 17-18, 2021

Virtual K-3 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 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)

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.

SMALL GROUP

SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY AND DISCUSSION

(Paper, Markers/Crayons, Bibles)

What You Do:

- As kids join the meeting and get settled, engage them in conversation about the past week.
- If you choose, consider using an icebreaker question to get kids talking.

- Practice saying the memory verse together.
- If you've chosen to watch the Bible story video presentation as a group, get that started once you've given latecomers a chance to join the meeting, and once the group feels settled (Video found at theparenthub.net).

Activity:

What You Do:

- Guide kids to review and retell the story by drawing individual scenes/plot points and then showing the group what they've drawn.
- If you have older kids, they can open their Bibles to Genesis 26 and use it as a guide as they draw their scene.
- For the most part, let kids choose which parts of the story they draw.
- You'll probably have a lot of kids drawing Isaac as he walks away from one of the wells. Prompt kids to decide which drawing is the first time, second time, etc.
- Below are a few ideas for what kids could illustrate from the story:
 - o Isaac with lots of farmland and animals
 - o Abimelek telling Isaac to move, the first time
 - o Isaac and his crew digging their wells
 - o Abimelek telling Isaac to move again
 - o Isaac moving, with all the herds and people
 - o Isaac's crew digging wells a second time
 - o Philistines commanding Isaac to move for a third time
 - o Isaac and Abimelek making peace and having a feast

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 them 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."

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.)*

Close your group in prayer:



“Dear God, thank You for reminding us through the story of Isaac that our relationships with others are WAY more important than winning an argument or fight. Help us have the assurance that You see our peace-making efforts and honor them, even when we don’t always see immediate results. Help us practice the action word we each chose this week to prove we care more about others by walking away from a fight. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

