



## WEEK ONE – MARCH 2024 – SECOND/THIRD

**Bible Story:** *Live In Peace With Everyone | Luke 10:25-37*

**Bottom Line:** *Make peace whenever you can*

**Memory Verse:** *“If possible, live in peace with everyone. Do that as much as you can.” – Romans 12:18 NIRV*

**Virtue:** *Peace – Proving you care more about each other than winning an argument*

**Basic Truth:** *I should treat others that way I want to be treated*

**Series Overview:** Throughout Scripture, we can see how peace is something near to God’s heart. Even though people chose to break their relationship with God, God made a way to fix that relationship through Jesus. And because we reflect God’s image, making peace with others should be a priority for us as well. That’s why we’re taking the first three weeks of March to highlight some passages and stories about peace to help kids understand more about how they can be peacemakers in their world.

**Bottom Line: Make peace whenever you can.** 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 living in peace with others is worth our best effort. We pray that kids will discover how they can show God’s love by the way they make peace with the people in their lives.

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## 9:00 - 9:15 | 11:00 – 11:15 | EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITY

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### Opening Small Group Activity

*Move: an activity increases the oxygen in the brain + taps into the energy in the body*

**What You Need:** Floor Tape

### What You Do:

- Welcome kids by name as they arrive with a fist bump or high five
- Use the floor tape to make a line on the floor that's long for your entire group to stand on
- Instruct the kids to form a line on the floor tape in any order
- Call out a characteristic
- Direct the kids to line up based on the characteristic you called out
- Some suggestions of characteristics:
  - Tallest to Shortest
  - Oldest to Youngest
  - Shoe Size
- Direct the kids to line up without talking to each other
- Continue to play as time and interest allow

### What You Say:

“That was such a fun game, and you all did an incredible job rearranging yourselves in new ways! It definitely seemed tricky figuring out how to do that without talking. I loved seeing you work together. You stayed peaceful and worked together. **[Transition] Today, we're going to hear about some ways we can make peace with others!**”

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**9:15 - 9:45 | 11:15 – 11:45 | LARGE GROUP**

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**Large Group Overview:** In week one, we look at something Paul wrote in **Romans 12:18**: *“If possible, live in peace with everyone. Do that as much as you can.”* This is a big challenge! Do as much as you can to live in peace . . . with everyone! Paul was stressing how important it is for us to do everything in our power to fix what is broken—and make connections with the people around us. After all, this is what God did for us through Jesus.

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**9:45 – 10:05 | 11:45 – 12:05 | SMALL GROUP**

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**Letter Together**

**[Live for God | Application Activity]**

*Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment*

**What You Need:** Bible (Romans 12:18); butcher paper; colored pencils; markers

**What You Do:**

- Remind the kids that Paul wrote letters teaching people how to follow Jesus
- Use the Bible to read Romans 12:18 aloud to the group
  - Remind kids in this verse, Paul wrote about peace
- Explain the kids will write a letter of their own about peace
- Give each kid a “Letter Together” Activity Page + a pencil
- Keep one “Letter Together” Activity Page for yourself
- Read the letter on the “Letter Together” Activity Page out loud, saying “blank” for each blank
- Instruct the kids to fill in the blanks in the “Letter Together” Activity Page to give advice on how to keep the peace

- Once the kids have filled in the blanks, invite them to share their letters (with the whole group or with a partner) as time/comfort allow

### **What You Say:**

*“Just like Paul, you all did a great job writing letters to share how to **make peace whenever you can!** Just like your examples showed, we can all make the choice to keep the peace. We can take a deep breath and pause before we speak. We can really listen to what the other person has to say. And if we ever get stuck, we can ask a trusted adult to help if we don’t know what to do.*

*When you choose to follow Jesus, you can have peace with God. God sends the Holy Spirit to live within you. And God’s Spirit can help you make peace with others. Peace is a gift that’s given to us as we follow Jesus, and we can still have peace no matter how the other person responds.*

*Your letters will help you remember the ways you can **make peace whenever you can!**”*

### **Pray + Dismiss**

#### **[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]**

*Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding + application*

**What You Need:** Paper; coloring supplies; Legos; paper; small objects (rocks/buttons/pennies)

### **What You Do:**

- Designate three spaces in your SG area for prayer stations
- In one station, place the paper + coloring supplies. This will be the “Create” station
- In another station, place the LEGO blocks. This will be the “Build” Station
- In the third station, place the small objects on the “ANGER” side of the prepared paper. This is the “Reflect” station
- Divide your group into three smaller groups

- Assign each group to start at one of the three stations
- Explain each station to the kids in the following ways
  - **CREATE Station:** Using coloring supplies, draw a picture of what peace looks like to you. What people and things bring you peace? What colors will you use?
  - **BUILD Station:** Using LEGO® blocks, build a place where you feel peace (home, room, nature, etc.). As you put the blocks together, thank God for being able to have that place in your life. Take apart your creation before moving to the next station.
  - **REFLECT Station:** Take an object (rock, button, penny) from the side of the paper labeled, ANGER. Hold the object and think about a time you've felt angry because some things were not fair. Then, place your object under the word PEACE. Think about what it would look like to choose peace in that situation. Then, close your eyes and practice listening to what God might be telling you about choosing peace in difficult situations.
- Instruct the kids to remain quiet (peaceful) so everyone can focus on their prayer station
- After 2-3 minutes at a station, encourage the groups to move to another station
- Continue until each kid has gone through all three stations

### **What You Say:**

*“I loved this quiet time we were all able to spend with God! We can pray to God anytime—when we’re coloring, or playing games, or riding the school bus, or falling asleep at night. And when you ask, God can help you choose to **make peace whenever you can.**”*

*God, thank You for sending Jesus so we can have peace with You. Thank You for giving us Your Holy Spirit, who helps us make peace with others. This week, help us to stop and think about ways we can make peace with others instead of reacting quickly when we don’t feel peaceful. We love You and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”*

*As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to share their letters. Invite kids to ask their family how they can choose to make peace in their lives and hand out this month's Parent Cue cards!*