



## WEEK TWO – MARCH 2024 – PRETEEN

**Bible Story:** *Abram + Lot | Genesis 13:5-18*

**Key Question:** *Why is it hard to give up what you think is fair?*

**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.

**Key Question: Why is it hard to give up what you think is fair?** If you walk into a fifth-grade classroom, you’ll quickly discover that kids argue with each other about the smallest things. It can be hard for a kid to walk away from conflict because they feel like their entire reputation might be at stake. We pray that our preteens will learn how to make the wise choice and work to make peace.

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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 that increases the oxygen in the brain + taps into the energy in the body*

**What You Need:** N/A

### What You Do:

- High-five kids + welcome them by name as they arrive
- Instruct the kids to gather together in the center of your group space
- One at a time, ask a “Would You Rather?” question
- As you ask the question with the two choices, point to one side of the space for one choice and the other for the other choice
- Instruct the kids to walk to the side of the room to determine their choice
- To switch things up, choose kids to take turns coming up with questions to ask
- Questions: Would you rather...
  - Read a book or watch a movie?
  - Visit the past or the future?
  - Live in the clouds or underwater?
  - Never brush your teeth again or never take a shower again?
  - Have a giraffe’s neck or an elephant’s trunk?
  - Live in a treehouse or an igloo?
  - Never have to go to school again or never have to do chores again?
  - Always speak in a shouting voice or always speak in a whisper voice?
  - Celebrate Christmas every single day of the year or celebrate your birthday every single day of the year?
  - Kiss a frog or lick a slug?
  - Be the best player on a losing team or the worst player on a winning team?
  - Have your body covered in fur or feathers?

- Have the power to make your dreams come true or make other people’s dreams come true?
- Be the main character of a popular video game or the host of a trending YouTube channel?

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

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**Large Group Overview:** For Week Two, we head to **Genesis 13:5-18**. We read how Abram and Lot’s herdsmen were arguing because there wasn’t enough land for both men’s herds. Abram chose to make peace with Lot by letting Lot choose the land he wanted. Abram could have taken the best land for himself, but instead, he trusted God and allowed Lot to decide.

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

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### **Bible Story Extension**

#### **[Talk About God | Bible Story Review]**

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

**What You Need:** “Peace Play” Activity Page

#### **What You Do:**

- Invite kids to sit in a circle
- Give each kid a card from the “Peace Play” Activity page until all cards are given out
  - Distribute the cards so that they are in sequential order around the circle
  - For smaller groups, give some kids more than one card

- Instruct the kids to work together to create a “circuit” to review today’s story by taking turns reading their cards in order, beginning with whoever has #1
- Direct the kids to use their best dramatic narrator voice to tell their portion of the story when reading their card(s)
- Instruct the kids who reads the card to pose in the manner the card says and hold this pose for the remainder of the story as it’s told by the rest of the group or until they read a second card
- Once all the cards have been read, tell the group they did an outstanding job retelling the story
- Invite everyone to join you in a round of applause
- Ask:
  - Why did Abram choose to give up what he wanted in order to let Lot get his way?
  - When we’re in the middle of a conflict, do we typically know what the end result is going to be?
  - Is it easy to trust God with the end result? Why or why not?
  - Can you think of a time you chose to let something go rather than win the argument?

## **Discussion Questions**

### **[Talk About God | Bible Story Review]**

*Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others + build on their understanding*

## **What You Need:** Bibles

## **What You Do:**

- Ask:
  - What does fair mean?
  - Have you ever had to give up something you thought you deserved?
  - How does it feel to lose or miss out on something?
  - Why is it hard to give up what you think is fair?

**Make It Personal With Prayer**  
**[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]**

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

**What You Need:** Paper; coloring supplies; LEGOs; markers

**What You Do:**

- Invite kids to huddle up
- Ask:
  - What is our theme this whole month? (*Connected: Switch on the power of peace*)
  - What does connected have to do with learning about peace? (*We can experience the power of peace through our connection with those around us*)
- Give each kid a copy of the “Conflict Connection” Activity Page and a pencil
- Encourage kids to take time to think about a conflict that they maybe navigating right now (or that they have faced recently)
  - Be sure to give an example or two to help them brainstorm
- ***[Make It Personal] (Share an age-appropriate conflict you are currently or recently navigating. Explain what’s going on with both sides + share how you can plan to let go of what’s fair)***
- Instruct kids to write about their conflict in the middle of their “Conflict Connection” Activity Page
- Challenge the kids to think about the feelings or perspective of each person involved on both side of the conflict (encourage them to imagine why the situation matters to the other person)
- Instruct them to fill in the boxes on the sides of the “Conflict Connection” Activity Page that provide perspective of each person involved
- Ask:
  - Why do you think taking the time to consider someone else’s perspective can help us make peace that situation?

- Who else can help us make peace when our own efforts don't seem to work?
  - *NOTE: Be sure to acknowledge there are times when something isn't fair and needs to be made right; encourage kids to talk with an adult about that*
- Begin a prayer time by praying out loud for the group then provide quiet time for kids to silently pray about the conflict they wrote about on their papers
  - If time allows, give kids a chance to briefly explain their conflict to the group, and then share what choice they could make to promote peace