



## WEEK THREE – MARCH 2024 – PRETEEN

**Bible Story:** *Abigail Intervenes* / 1 Samuel 25:1-35

**Key Question:** *How can you be a peacemaker?*

**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: How can you be a peacemaker?** It’s one thing to SAY that peace is important. It’s another thing to actively work toward making peace. As kids go about their day, we hope they learn to stop, look around, and see how they can help make peace between people they know who are experiencing an argument.

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

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**Opening Small Group Activity**

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

**What You Need:** “Superpower Suit” Activity Page; markers

**What You Do:**

- Welcome kids by name as they arrive
- Direct the kids to sit in a circle
- Ask:
  - Who is your favorite superhero and why?
  - If you could have one superpower, what would it be?
- Give each kid a copy of “Superpower Suit” Activity Page
- Set out the markers
- Instruct the kids to design their own superhero suits that creatively display what their superpower would be

**What You Say:**

“These look great! *[Transition]* Today, we’ll discover how someone used their superpower of peace to come up with a solution to a tricky situation.”

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

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**Large Group Overview:** In **1 Samuel 25:1-35**, we find a story about a woman named Abigail. We read how King David was furious with a man named Nabal who had mistreated his men. David decided to get revenge . . . until Nabal’s wife, Abigail, intercepted him, apologized, and offered gifts as a way to make peace. Even though Abigail wasn’t responsible for her husband’s offense, she realized that she could play a role in making peace

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

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### **Take a Snapshot**

#### **[Live For God | Application Activity]**

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

**What You Need:** Dry-erase board; dry-erase marker; dry-erase marker

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

- Invite the group to sit where they can all see the dry-erase board
- Ask for a volunteer
- Give the volunteer the dry-erase marker
- Instruct them to draw a large peace sign on the dry-erase board (big enough for you to write in) and then sit back down with the group
- Ask kids to take a moment to think about examples of a conflict
  - This could be a hypothetical, but, likely scenario
  - They could also think of something that has actually happened recently in their lives
- Once the kids have had time to think, invite kids (one at a time) who would like to share their conflict example with the group
- After the first kid finishes explaining the scenario, allow kids to discuss one side of the conflict
- Briefly write down an explanation of that side of the conflict in the left half of the peace sign
- Invite kids to discuss the other side of the conflict
- Briefly write down an explanation of that side of the conflict in the right half of the peace sign
- Once you have discussed both sides of the conflict, allow kids to come up with creative solutions to help the two sides make peace

- Be sure to facilitate respectful discussion, allowing kids to take turns and listen to one another
- If there are several solutions suggested, invite the group to vote on what they think the best option is
- Briefly write down an explanation of that solution in the bottom section of the peace sign
- If time allows, erase everything but the peace sign and invite another kid to share a conflict
- Repeat the process
- Ask:
  - Why does conflict feel so uncomfortable?
  - Is it challenging to step in and be a peacemaker? Why or why not?
  - Are there times when you should not be the peacemaker?
- Remind kids that when we are brave/bold/creative to help others come up with peaceful solutions, we are living like Jesus and showing His love to those around us
  - Be sensitive to any kids in your group who may be experiencing or witnessing conflict that requires an adult to step in.
  - Encourage them to ask an adult who they trust for help

### **What You Say:**

*“This is one of my favorite ways to memorize Scripture! Memorizing Scripture is a great way to remember God’s Word when we need it. When you feel conflict or are looking for peace, remember this verse! Like we talked about today, you can try your best to notice when two people aren’t seeing eye-to-eye, and **you can help others make peace.**”*

### **Make It Personal With Prayer**

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

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

**What You Need:** N/A

**What You Do:**

- Divide kids into pairs
- Invite the pairs to spread out with their partners in your group space
- Direct each pair to share with each other a conflict they have going on in their lives right now
- Instruct each pair to brainstorm creative solutions for how they can be peacemakers in their situations
- After each pair of kids has had time to share and discuss, say: “It’s incredibly important to have people you can trust who you can talk to about what’s going on in your life. One of the purposes of being in a SG is to have people who provide a safe place for this very reason.”
- Invite the pairs to pray for each other, asking God to help them know how to bring peace in the situation they’re facing
- Encourage the kids to remember to pray for their partners throughout the week ahead
- Close your group time in prayer, asking God to help everyone bring peace in their situations