



WEEK
THREE
MARCH 2024

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

The Peacemaker
Abigail Intervenes
1 Samuel 25:1-35

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

How can you be a peacemaker?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

You can help others make peace.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"If possible, live in peace
with everyone. Do that
as much as you can."
Romans 12:18, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

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

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way
I want to be treated.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Check out our Pinterest page here <https://bit.ly/447HSZi> for a visual on some of the activities.

SMALL GROUP

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Just for Fun
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP

35
MIN

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

Welcome/Opener
Worship
Bible Story (Communicator Script)
Key Question
Prayer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Application Activity: Take a Snapshot
Bible Story Review: Bible Story Extension and
Discussion Questions
Memory Verse Activity: Verses to Take with You
Prayer Activity: Make it Personal with Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Parent Cue Card (print or email)
Devotionals for Kids
Parent Cue App



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PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

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



Before kids arrive, take some time to rest in conversation with God about the time you're about to spend with your students in group. Pray that they would see the value in being peacemakers in their circles of friends, in their families, and everywhere else they have relationships with others.

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1. JUST FOR FUN

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container, "Superpower Suit" Activity Page, and assorted markers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Welcome kids by name as they arrive.
- Invite kids who have brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- 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.



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PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group



2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: Dry-erase board, dry-erase marker, and dry-erase eraser

WHAT YOU DO:

- Set up a Rock, Paper, Scissors tournament.
- On the dry-erase board, draw a single-elimination

tournament bracket.

- For example: <https://bit.ly/46higKx>



- Choose two kids to start.
- Write their names in the first round on the bracket.
- Ask the first two kids to stand in front of everyone while they compete against each other in a game of Rock, Paper, Scissors.
- Continue playing, one round at a time, filling in the brackets on the board, until you are down to the final match.
- Whoever wins the final match is the champion!
- If time allows, set up another bracket and play again.

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"Everyone did a fantastic job in our tournament today! Raise your hand if you have ever used Rock, Paper, Scissors to make a decision or solve an argument with someone? *(Invite a showing of hands.)* **[Transition]** Today, we'll discover how someone used their superpower of peace to come up with a solution to a tricky situation."

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

MONTHLY VIRTUE

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO IMAGINE

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



1. TAKE A SNAPSHOT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Dry-erase board, dry-erase marker, and dry-erase eraser

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, and 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.

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE

an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing



2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Peace Power" Activity Page, pencils

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite kids to spread out.
- Give each kid a copy of the "Peace Power" Activity Page and a pencil.
- Instruct the kids to put the lettered events at the bottom of the page in order on the numbered lines moving up the lightbulb.
 - Suggest that kids read over each event entirely before deciding where to place them on their "Peace Power" Activity Page.
- Once everyone has had time to complete the page, take turns asking different kids to share each of the events that happened in order from the story.
- Make sure everyone agrees on the correct order that the events belong on the "Peace Power" Activity Page. (The proper order of events is listed below.)
- Ask:
 - What are some of Abigail's character traits that equipped her to be a peacemaker? (For example: She was brave, creative, patient, etc.)
 - How can we have those same character traits that Abigail had?
- Remind kids that when we have a relationship with Jesus, we have the power of the Holy Spirit to help us work toward becoming peacemakers.
- **[Make It Personal] (Tell the kids a story about a time when you had to be a peacemaker. Do your best to explain the conflict in a way that kids can relate, and then share how your relationship with Jesus influenced your ability to make peace.)**

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Order of Events:

- Nabal lived in Carmel with his wife, Abigail, and his many goats and sheep.
- Nabal was rich, mean, and selfish. Abigail was wise and kind.
- David and his men were camped out near Nabal's flocks, and took care of them, keeping them safe from harm.
- When it was shearing time, Nabal was going to throw a big party. David thought he and his men deserved to be included since they had helped protect the sheep.
- David sent some of his men to ask Nabal for anything he wanted to share with them since they had helped keep Nabal's sheep safe.
- Nabal responded with anger, instead of assistance. He sent David's men back empty-handed.
- David responded with anger as well and made plans to attack Nabal's home.
- Abigail heard of the feud, and packed a bag of food and supplies to bring to David and his men.
- Abigail made peace with David. Because of her courage and kindness, she prevented a terrible fight between him and Nabal.



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



3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- Why is it challenging to help others make peace?
- Would you want someone to help you make peace if you're in a conflict?
- How can you be a peacemaker?
- Should you always take on the responsibility of being a peacemaker for others?
- When can you know that it's time to let someone else help?

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MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group



4. VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, pencils, "Bible Buzzer" Activity Page, buzzer (or tap light)

WHAT YOU DO:

- Divide your group into two teams.
- Invite the teams to sit together on opposite sides of your group space.
- Place the buzzer (or tap light) in the center of the group space, equidistant from both teams.
- Give each team a Bible and a pencil.
- Place a copy of the "Bible Buzzer" Activity Page face down near each team and tell them not to turn it over yet.
- Instruct each team to select a teammate who will be the one to race to the buzzer (or tap light).
- Explain that when you say, "Go," each team should work together to:
 - Flip over the "Bible Buzzer" Activity Page.
 - Read number one.
 - Use the Bible to look up the first verse.
 - Talk about the answer to the first question.
 - Send their buzzer ringer to the middle to ring the buzzer (or turn on the tap light).
- Once the first buzzer does this, ask for their team's response.
- If the team's answer is correct, assign that team two points.
- If the team answers the question incorrectly, allow the other team a chance to provide their answer.
- If the other team answers the question correctly, assign that team one point.
- If that team answers the question incorrectly, tell the group what the correct answer is.
- Move on to the next round.
- Repeat until all five questions have been answered.
- Answers to the questions:
 1. *Your mouth (tongue/lips)*
 2. *Joy*
 3. *Faith in Jesus*
 4. *Jesus died on the cross*
 5. *Everyone*
- Direct each team to add up their points and declare the winning team!

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space
for personal understanding
and application



5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

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 Small Group 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 try 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.

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GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story.

(Choose one or both of these activities.)

1. JUST FOR FUN

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Offering container
- Print "Superpower Suit" Activity Page on paper, one for each kid
- Assorted markers, one set for each Small Group

2. OPENING ACTIVITY

Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Dry-erase board, one for each Small Group
- Dry-erase marker, one for each Small Group
- Dry-erase eraser, one for each Small Group

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT (25 MINUTES)

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

(Choose as many of these activities as you like.)

1. TAKE A SNAPSHOT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Dry-erase board, one for each Small Group
- Dry-erase marker, one for each Small Group
- Dry-erase eraser, one for each Small Group

2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print "Peace Power" Activity Page on paper, one for each kid
- Pencils, one for each kid

3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding

WHAT YOU NEED:

- No supplies needed

4. VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print "Bible Buzzer" Activity Page on paper, two copies for each Small Group
- Buzzer (or tap light), one for each Small Group
- Bibles, two for each Small Group
- Pencils, two for each Small Group

5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal processing and application

WHAT YOU NEED:

- No supplies needed

HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Print on cardstock or email this week's devotionals and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource: **Parent Cue app**.