



MARCH THEME

JUMP BALL

Finding PEACE in the Madness

BIBLE STORY

1 Samuel 25:1-35

Give Peace a Chance | Abigail
Intervenes

BOTTOM LINE

Prove you care more about others by
being part of the solution

MEMORY VERSE

“So let us do all we can to live in
peace. And let us work hard to build
each other up”

Romans 14:19, NIRV

LIFE APP

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

FOR LEADERS ONLY

GOD VIEW: the connection between PEACE and God’s character, as shown through God’s big story.

Key Question: What are ways you can 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 stop, look around, and see how they can help make peace between people they know who are experiencing an argument.

In **1 Samuel 25:1-35**, Abigail intervenes when her husband picks a fight with David. Abigail immediately knew what was happening and made a plan to present gifts to David and calm his anger. Her quick actions promoted peace between the two men.

Bottom Line: Prove you care more about others by being part of the solution. Peace is often about helping stop an argument before it can escalate into something worse. Acting as a peacemaker between others will take time and energy, but God can give us the strength to help others make peace. Sometimes our outside perspective is what someone might need to see a peaceful solution.

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION

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

Before kids arrive, **PRAY** for each regular attendee by name. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Ask God to give kids opportunities to be peacemakers. Pray that God would help them know when and how to be part of the solution when it comes to conflict. And pray that God would guide your conversation with your few as they navigate applying today’s truths.

•• **EARLY ARRIVER IDEA**

Made to Connect | An activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Ask the following questions and encourage kids to share:
 - What kinds of things do kids argue about with their friends, siblings, or parents?
 - How does arguing make you feel?
 - Why do you think we argue?
 - Any ideas of what works better than arguing?

•• **ALPHABET PASS**

Made to Play | An activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group



What You Need: Ball-pit ball

What You Do:

- Circle kids up, and hold the ball.
- Explain that you will name different foods in A-B-C order as you toss the ball across the circle.
- Start the game by tossing the ball and naming a food that starts with A, like “A is for apple.”
- The kid that catches the ball must toss it to another kid across the circle and add the next letter and food, like “B is for banana.”
- Continue tossing the ball and naming foods in A-B-C order until you make it all the way through the alphabet.
—Another option would be to let kids name foods that start with any letter, but as they go, the next kid has to name all the other foods that were named before.
- Be prepared to help with more difficult letters like U (*upside-down cake, unsalted nuts, or unsweetened chocolate*), Q (*quesadilla, queso, or quiche*), X (*xia—the Chinese word for shrimp*), and Z (*zucchini, ziti*).

What You Say: “Great job, friends. We had to get a little creative with our food choices for some of those letters, especially the letter X. **[Transition] Today in Sunday CM worship/WOW family worship, we will hear/we heard a Bible story that features food, arguing and peacemaking.**

[Sunday Leaders: Lead your group to the Family Room for Children’s Ministry Worship. Wednesday Leaders: Continue with the study.]

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT

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

●● **WHOSE LINE IS IT ANYWAY?** [Talk about God | Bible Story Review | Application Activity]

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

What You Need: “Bible Story Script” activity page

What You Do:

- Assign group members one of the following characters from today’s Bible story: Nabal, King David, Nabal’s servant, David’s servant, Abigail
- Assign the remaining kids to be sheep or goats and encourage them to get down on all fours.
- Instruct everyone to act out today’s story as you read the script.

What You Say: “I just love this story. I love how Abigail saw the problem and worked quickly to find a peaceful solution. She knew that fighting wasn’t the answer. Sometimes when we think we’re right, we forge ahead to make our point. But peace is about finding a way to fix the problem. Peacemakers are problem solvers, just like Abigail. So remember to **[Bottom Line] prove you care more about others by being part of the solution.**”

[Make it Personal] (Tell your few about a time when you had a conflict with someone and instead of wasting energy on proving you were right; you chose to find a solution that would satisfy everyone. Maybe you made a compromise, or maybe you just apologized. Whatever the case, help kids see the solution part of your example.)

●● **SHOE SWITCH** [Live for God | Application Activity]

Made to Play | An activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group



What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Ask every kid to stand in a circle and remove one shoe and place it in the middle of your small group area.
- Instruct the kids to each select one shoe (not their own!) from the pile and place it on one hand.
- Kids must stand up and find the owner of the shoe. Once located, they must lean over and place that shoe next to its match (*while still on their hand*).
- Since everyone is trying to locate each shoe's rightful owner, you should end up with a tangled web of kids, much like a Twister® game.
- Once all matches have been made, instruct kids to carefully stand up, return all shoes to their rightful owners, and have a seat.
- As they're putting their shoes back on, discuss the following:
 - What do you think the phrase “walk a mile in someone else's shoes” means?
 - In our story today, it helps to try to put ourselves in the shoes of each of the different characters. David couldn't understand why Nabal wouldn't share. Nabal couldn't understand why David would ask for food. And Abigail couldn't understand why everyone just couldn't get along!
 - When you have a disagreement, does it help to try to think about how the other person feels? Does it help to “walk in their shoes”? Why?

What You Say: “Being part of the solution means that you try first to understand another person's point of view instead of just making your point. A good question to ask yourself is, ‘What does this situation look like from the other person's shoes?’ When you can begin to figure that out, it's much easier to come up with a solution that brings peace instead of more conflict or fighting. Just like Abigail did, you can **[Bottom Line] prove you care more about others by being part of the solution.**”

●● **FILL-IN-THE-BLANK** [Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

Made to Reflect | An activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

What You Need: Bible, “Fill-in-the-Blank Verse” activity page, markers

What You Do:

- Help kids look up Romans 14:19 and read it aloud together.
- Give each child a “Fill-in-the-Blank” activity page. Point out the blanks on the page.
- Instruct the kids to use the markers to fill in the blanks with their own names.
- Give the kids a few minutes to decorate their verses with the markers provided.

What You Say: “I think each one of us can do all we can in our homes, in our classrooms, on our ball teams, and in our neighborhoods to live in peace. I'd like for you to take this verse home and put it somewhere in your room so that you can see it every day as a reminder this week to **[Bottom Line] prove you care more about others by being part of the solution.**”

PRAY AND SEND [Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

Made to Reflect | An activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

What You Need: “Fill in the Blank Verse” page from previous activity

What You Do:

- Encourage the kids to hold their pages from the previous activity.



**PRINCE
OF PEACE**
Called to Connect

MARCH
18/21
2018

GRADE 2-3
SMALL GROUP EXPERIENCE

- Guide them to repeat the verse as they read it from the page.
- Close in prayer.

What You Say: “Dear God, thank you for reminding us to do all we can to live in peace. Help me and help each one of these awesome kids to do everything we can this week to **[Bottom Line] prove we care more about others by being part of the solution**, even if that means that we have to give up something. We want to be peacemakers. We love you so much. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.”

Give each child a **GodTime** card. Sunday leaders, pass out **Parent Cue** cards to any adult who has not yet received one this month. Encourage kids to tell their adults the one thing they liked best about Abigail in today’s Bible story.