



APRIL THEME



BIBLE STORY

Colossians 3:15

Give Me Peace on Earth | Live in Peace
with Others

BOTTOM LINE

We can make peace with others

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

●● THEME OVERVIEW

Key Question: Who do you need to make peace with? Peace can seem like a great idea without a real way to accomplish it. That’s why we start with a question to personalize the impact peace can have in our relationships. We are more likely to build bridges of peace with people when we name them and recognize the role we play in making peace. We pray that we will see how we can make peace with others.

This week we look closer at something else Paul wrote in **Colossians 3:15**: “Let the peace that Christ gives rule in your hearts. As parts of one body, you were appointed to live in peace. And be thankful” (NIRV). Because Jesus made peace with us, we can turn around and show that same peace to others.

Bottom Line: We can make peace with others. 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 peace is worth the effort it takes to make it. We pray that we will discover the ways we can live at peace with the people in our lives.

●● WOW @home

What You Do: Watch this week’s WOW @home in the comfort of your family’s @home prayer + worship spot. The video can be found on popmn.org/youtube or facebook.com/popchildrens. Then use this Family Guide, the GodTime & ParentCue cards, and FAITH5 daily devos as personal devotionals and to keep the conversation going...

●● PEACE OR NO PEACE [Live for God | Bible Story Review]

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

What You Need: 2 blank sheets of paper, marker, tape, and Bible

What You Do:

- Label one sheet “Peace” and the other “No Peace” and tape them up on opposite walls.
- Read Colossians 3:15 and briefly unpack the truth that God made us to make peace with others. For example: with God’s help, we can choose to make peace by being the first to say we’re sorry, by letting others go first, by sharing what we have, etc.
- Have everyone stand together in the center of your room.
- Read a scenario below or describe a scenario that’s relevant for your family.
- If they think the child in the scenario chose to make peace, they should move to the “Peace” sign, face each other, and hold their arms up and forward, making a bridge with whomever else is there.

- If they think the child in the scenario didn't choose peace, they should move to the "No Peace" sign and stand apart from each other.
- Have your family return to the center after each scenario.

Scenarios...

- There's a new kid in your class who acts differently, and the other kids stay away from them. You ask them to play with you at recess.
- There are two cookies left in the box. Instead of eating both, you eat one and give one to your brother.
- There's only one piece of Easter candy left. You take it and eat it before your sister figures it out.
- You let your friend choose which game to play.
- You run and push ahead so you can be first in line on the slides at recess.
- You and your friend have a fight. You say you're sorry first.
- There's a kid at school who looks different than you. You invite them to your party so you can become friends.
- You and your friend are really excited to get a book out of the library but there's only one copy available. You let your friend read it first.

What You Say: "God made us to work together and wants us to live in peace with each other. On our own, it's easy to fight, argue, and try to get what WE want. But with God's help we can share, put others first, and be first to say we're sorry. And when we do that, it's like we build a bridge of peace between ourselves and others. **[Bottom Line] We can make peace with others.**"

[Make It Personal] *(Tell kids about a time when you made peace with others. You may have let your brother or sister choose first, let your friend choose the movie—even if it was one you didn't like that much, or been the first to say you were sorry. Tell kids how you felt afterwards and how it made your relationship better.)*

"It's pretty much a given that we're going to have conflict with others. Who can you make peace with this week? *(Give everyone a chance to respond: my friend, the kid at school, my brother, my sister).* How will you do it? *(Brainstorm ideas together.)* Great ideas! Always remember that **[Bottom Line] we can make peace with others.**"

•• THE POWER OF PEACE [Talk about God | Application Activity]

Made to Explore | An activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery

What You Need: Whole milk or half and half, 2 disposable bowls, liquid food coloring (*3 different colors*), craft sticks, liquid dish soap

NOTE: You may want to check out <https://bit.ly/33XEWcC> to watch a video and learn more about how this experiment works before trying it with your family.

What You Do:

- Explain that the food coloring represents the other people in our lives, the craft stick represents us and the dish soap represents God.
- Pour some dish soap into a bowl.
- Pour milk into a different bowl until the bottom is covered to a depth of about ¼ inch.
- Place one drop of each food coloring (*others*) in three or four different places near the center of the bowl.
- Next, dip the end of a craft stick (*us*) in the soap (*God's peace*).
- Place the soapy end of the craft stick in the center of the milk bowl, hold it in place and watch the colors swirl.

What You Say: "God created us to have peace with God. God also created us to share God's peace with others. On our own, we tend to do our own thing and want our own thing—like when the food coloring was first in the milk. The colors kept to themselves, didn't they? But when we have God's peace—like when we dipped the craft stick into the soap, we can share God's peace with others—like when we put the soapy stick into the milk. And when we share God's peace with

others, amazing things can happen—like when the colors swirled together! We can help people come together and we all can grow in God’s love. We can make a difference! So remember, when we have God’s peace, **[Bottom Line] we can make peace with others.**”

●● **BUILD OTHERS UP** [Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

Made to Create | An activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving

What You Need: Bible and blocks, books or something to build towers (*i.e. toilet paper rolls, cereal boxes, playing cards*)

What You Do:

- Look up and read Romans 14:19.
- Work together as a family to build a tower with whatever supplies you’ve gathered.

What You Say: “This month’s Memory Verse, Romans 14:19, tells us that God wants us to build others up. What does it mean to build others up? Do you think building others up could mean that we put others first? Would saying kind things build others up? Would letting others choose first build others up? Would giving up what we want so that someone else can have what they want build others up? Absolutely! That’s exactly what it means! And our verse says we should ‘Work hard to build each other up.’ So we’re not just supposed to do it...we’re supposed to look for chances to do it whenever we can.

“So this week, let’s look for ways that we can build others up. Maybe say and do kind things. Let others be first. Let others choose first. Because when we build others up, we share God’s peace with them. **[Bottom Line] We can make peace with others.**”

●● **PRAY** [Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

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

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Stand facing each other, holding your arms out and forward, connecting your hands to form bridges between you.
- Use the conversation below as a guide to lead into prayer...

What You Say: “Our Memory Verse reminds us that God created us to work together and wants us to live in peace with one another. When we do that, it’s like we build a bridge of peace between ourselves and others. **[Bottom Line] We can make peace with others.**

“Let’s pray. Dear God, thank you for creating us to work together. Thank you for creating us to live in peace with others. Help us share. Help us put others first. Help us be the first to say we’re sorry. Thank you that when we share the peace that only you can give us, **[Bottom Line] we can make peace with others.** Amen.”

●● **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

Looking for a devo for your kids? Looking for a personal devotional? Want to keep the conversation going? Check out the following resources at popmn.org/cm. Use them this week to continue the conversation around our **[Bottom Line]: We can make peace with others.**

GodTime Card | A 4-day devotional for elementary-aged kids based this week’s theme, kicked off on WOW @home

ParentCue | A tool for parents based on the weekly theme. Also available as an app, it sends alerts and encouragement specific to the age of your children (parentcue.org)

FAITH5 | A 6-day family devotional designed around Faith Inkubators’ FAITH5

●● **WHAT’S NEXT**

WEEK OF - 04/14 - 2021

FAMILY GUIDE

Set a reminder to join us for WOW @home on Wednesday 04/21 at 6:00 pm live at facebook.com/popchildrens or popmn.org/youtube for a time of worship centered around the **[Bottom Line]: You can show you care about others by walking away from a fight."**