



**MARCH THEME**

**JUMP BALL**

Finding PEACE in the Madness

**BIBLE STORY**

Genesis 26:1-6, 12-22, 26-31  
Walk On By | Isaac's Wells

**BOTTOM LINE**

Prove you care more about others by walking away from a fight

**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: How do you walk away from a fight?** If you walk into a fifth-grade classroom, you'll start to discover that even if fists aren't flying, kids fight with each other. Walking away from a fight can be one of the hardest things a kid does because they feel like their entire reputation is at stake. We pray kids leave with a game plan for how they can make the wise choice and walk away from a fight.

Throughout **Genesis 26**, we find Abraham's son, Isaac, settles in his father's land and reopens some wells. When his new neighbors argue with him, he simply moves to a new place and digs new wells. Isaac had every right to fight for those wells, but he chose peace instead.

**Bottom Line: Prove you care more about others by walking away from a fight.** Sometimes creating peace with someone means walking away even if we're not wrong. Often it takes a stronger person to have the self-control to walk away.

**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 help kids discern when something is worth fighting over and when it's not. Pray that kids would develop the maturity to walk away from a potential fight in order to keep peace with those around them. Ask God to help kids see that it takes a lot of strength to walk away from a fight, not the other way around.

**•• 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:**

- Greet kids as they arrive.
- Discuss what it's like to have a disagreement with someone and how that makes it difficult to keep the peace.
- Ask:
  - What was the last argument or disagreement you had? What happened?
  - Do you think you were right? Or after thinking about it, do you think maybe you were wrong?



—As you look back on that disagreement, does it still seem like something you should have argued about? Why or why not?

### •• WHAT ABOUT WATER?

*Made to Create | An activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing*

**What You Need:** Copy paper, markers

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

- Hand out copy paper and markers.
- Encourage the children to draw pictures of all the ways we use water. As they're working, discuss the following:
  - Where does water come from?
  - Why is water important?
  - Name some places we can find water.
  - What would happen if we didn't have access to clean water?
- After they've had a few minutes to draw, ask the kids to share their drawings with the rest of the group as you discuss all the ways we use water.

**What You Say:** "Wow! Water is REALLY important! Look at all the ways you can use water. You actually came up with a few things I hadn't thought of. **[Transition] Today in Sunday CM worship/WOW family worship, we'll hear/we heard about a man named Isaac who had a BIG water problem.**

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

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## 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.

### •• ACT IT OUT [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, 3 sheets of copy paper, markers

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

- Talk for a minute about a well and why it was so important in Isaac's day.
- Remind kids of all the uses for water that they brainstormed earlier.
  - Why would Isaac, his family, and their herds and flocks have to find water?
- Divide the kids into three "teams": Team Philistine, Team Herdsmen, and Team Isaac.
  - Instruct "Team Philistine" to select one member to play King Abimelech.
  - Instruct "Team Isaac" to select one member to play Isaac.
- Number the pieces of copy paper 1, 2, and 3. Place the numbered paper in three corners of the room.
- Instruct Team Philistine to gather in the fourth corner (*the one without a piece of paper*).
  - Team Herdsmen can stand in the center of the room.
  - Team Isaac can stand near you.
- Let each team decide who will be "people" and who will be "animals" (*like sheep, goats etc.*). Animals must get down on all fours.
- Explain that the pieces of paper will be the "wells."



- Instruct the kids to get into character and play their roles as you read the script.
- Animals can bray or pretend to eat as long as they are quieter than the narrator.
- Gather the group together as you wrap up.

**What You Say:** “Can you believe all the moving Isaac did to avoid a fight and keep the peace? Crazy, right? Every time he found water and those herdsmen claimed it was theirs, Isaac chose to **[Bottom Line] prove you care more about others by walking away from a fight.** Isaac chose to walk away in order to keep the peace.”

**[Make it Personal]** *(Tell about a time when you were a kid and you chose to walk away from a situation where someone was unkind or unfair to you. What happened?)*

●● **GENEROSITY DRAWING** [Live for God | Application Activity]

**Made to Create | An activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing**

**What You Need:** “Object Cards,” copy paper, markers

**What You Do:**

- Shuffle the “Object Cards” and then stack and place them facedown in the center of your table.
- Select the kid with the closest birthday to today to draw a card first.
- Instruct him/her to read the card without letting anyone else in the group see it.
- The selected kid has one minute to draw that object for the rest of the group.
- Once a kid correctly identifies the object, read the scenario below and ask that child to give an example of how they could bring peace to that situation.

<b>OBJECT</b>	<b>SCENARIO</b>
Ball	A kid on the other team pushes you down but the ref doesn't see it.
TV remote	Your older brother picks the next show to watch even though it's YOUR turn.
Book	You want to read your new book but when you get home, your brother is looking at it.
Juice box	There's only one juice box. Both you and your sister are thirsty.
Yo-yo	You find the yo-yo that you brought to school for show and tell in another kid's desk.
Shoe	A kid trips you on the playground. When you fall, he laughs.
Tablet	Your mom says you can't play your favorite game on the tablet before dinner.
Scooter	A friend down the street borrows your scooter without asking.
Backpack	The kid behind you in line trips, gets tangled in your backpack, and pulls you both down.
Cookie	Your dad eats the last cookie that your mom had promised to you.
Pencil	Another kid chose the pencil you wanted from the prize box at school.
Blocks	You spend all afternoon building a castle and your mom accidentally knocks it over with the vacuum.

**What You Say:** “In all of these scenarios, you had a choice to make. You could make things worse by choosing to fight, or you could decide that it was more important to keep the peace and walk away. We face situations every day where we can choose to fight or to walk away. Certainly if someone is being a bully or continues to be unkind, you should tell an adult you trust. But in our everyday arguments and disagreements, it's always best to remember that our relationship with the other person is more important than fighting over any object. Keeping the peace means we think about how we can get along with the other person before we push to be right or win the argument. That's why you should **[Bottom Line] prove you care more about others by walking away from a fight.**”



•• **BACK AWAY** [Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

*Made to Move | An activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body*

**What You Need:** Bible

**What You Do:**

- Ask everyone to line up shoulder-to-shoulder in front of you.
- Read Romans 14:19 aloud, and encourage kids to say it with you.
- Tell them that every time they say the word “PEACE,” they should take one step backward so they are moving away from you.
- Repeat the verse several times, varying the way kids move backward by asking them to hop, take a baby step, giant step, three shuffles, two spins, etc.
- **[Make It Personal]** *(Tell the kids about a time when you walked away from a fight because you wanted to show someone they were more important to you than what was fair. Explain how that built them up.)*

**What You Say:** “We show we care about others by building them up, not fighting with them. In order to do that, you might have to walk away from an argument this week. You won’t have to walk away backward, but you’ll have to give up what you want or let go of having something your way so that you can show someone they’re more important to you than winning an argument. If you’re getting angry, pray and find an adult who can help you before you say or do something that will make the problem worse. This week, instead of arguing and fighting, ask God to help you do the better thing: **[Bottom Line]** **prove you care more about others by walking away from a fight.**”

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**PRAY AND SEND** [Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

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

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

**What You Do:**

- Say the prayer below as a call and response.
- Explain that you will say a phrase and then you want them to say, “Help me care more about others by walking away from a fight.”

**What You Say:**

LEADER: “Dear God, when someone takes something of mine without asking, . . .”

KIDS: “Help me care more about others by walking away from a fight.”

LEADER: “When my sister or brother gets on my nerves, . . .”

KIDS: “Help me care more about others by walking away from a fight.”

LEADER: “When I just want to win or get my way, . . .”

KIDS: “Help me care more about others by walking away from a fight.”

LEADER: “In Jesus’ name. Amen.”

Give each child a **GodTime** card. Sunday leaders, pass out **Parent Cue** cards as adults arrive to pick up.