



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.

•• JUST FOR FUN

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

What You Need: Copy paper, pens

What You Do:

- Give each group member a piece of copy paper and a pen.
- Tell them they’ll have two minutes to write names of people who have helped others, as many as they can think of during the time limit.
- Names can include:
 - Generic names and occupations: mom, dad, policeman
 - Specific names: Jesus, Abraham Lincoln, Harriet Tubman, Martin Luther King, Jr.
 - Fictional names: Spiderman, Belle from Beauty and the Beast, Kristof,
 - The people can be dead or alive, fiction or real.
- After time is up, let a volunteer read his list.



- The rest of the kids should cross out any names the volunteer reads that are also on their own lists.
- Continue letting kids take turns reading off names while the rest of the group crosses off the duplicates.
- The person with the most names/titles left on his/her list is the winner!

•• GET YOUR HEAD IN THE GAME

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 both food and helpers.

[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.

•• TAKE A SNAPSHOT [Live for God | Application Activity]

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

What You Need: Copy paper, pens

What You Do:

- Divide the kids into teams of three.
- Give each team a sheet of paper and pens.
- Challenge teams to describe a peacemaker:
—How does a peacemaker act?
—How does a peacemaker treat people?
- Teams “discuss” the question but not through talking.
—All communication must be done on paper, in writing.
—They can use words, arrows, gestures, or emoticons, but they must formulate their answer without talking.



- After giving kids a few minutes for the “silent discussion,” lead them in a conversation about the experience.
- Teams should share their “silent discussion” papers during the large group conversation.
- Ask the group:
 - What were the similarities among the teams’ answers?
 - What were the differences?
 - Can anyone give an example of someone in his or her life who is a peacemaker? What makes that person a peacemaker?
 - [Make it Personal] Give an example yourself of someone in your life who’s a peacemaker. What is that person like? Share an age-appropriate story of something that person has done to make peace.**

●● **BIBLE STORY EXTENSION** [Talk about God | Bible Story Review]

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

What You Need: Bible, “Peacemaker or Not” activity pages, pens

What You Do:

- Give kids a “Peacemaker or Not” activity page and a pen.
- Read the Bible story to the group, 1 Samuel 25:1-35.
- Encourage kids, as you read, to think about the words and actions of the people in the story to determine if they are peacemakers or not.
- When you are finished reading, give kids a moment to fill out the “Peacemaker or Not” activity page with the people from the story. Without using names, encourage kids to add people from their own lives (*e.g. sister, aunt, teacher, etc*) to the appropriate spots on the activity page.
 - Before they start writing, ask if a volunteer can explain what a Venn diagram is (*for those who might not have used them in school yet*).
 - Make sure kids understand that the Venn diagram implies there can be a “middle ground” between peacemaker and “not a peacemaker.”
- Review answers as a group.
- Encourage kids to explain their answers. Potential discussion topics:
 - Who were the peacemakers in the story? Why did you consider them peacemakers?
 - Who were the non-peacemakers? Why did you consider them not peacemakers?
 - What about the servants who told Abigail about David’s plan?
 - Were they trying to help with the solution or were they tattling on David?
 - What is the difference between helping and tattle-telling?
 - What about David and his men? Were they peacemakers or bullies? (*Potentially they could be both. They protected Nabal’s servants in the fields, making them a peacemaker. However, when they didn’t get their way with Nabal, they could be considered bullies. And when they listened to Abigail and didn’t attack Nabal, they could be considered peacemakers. This is an opportunity to discuss how it is important to intentionally try to live in peace. There may be times we may mess up, but as Christ followers we keep trying.*)

●● **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS** [Live for God | Application Activity]

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:
 - What is one way you could be a peacemaker?
 - When is it hard to be a peacemaker?



**PRINCE
OF PEACE**
Called to Connect

MARCH
18/21
2018

GRADE 4-5
SMALL GROUP EXPERIENCE

- When is it easier to be a peacemaker?
- How can you be a peacemaker with someone who likes to gossip and talk about people?
- Can having just one peacemaker in a group change the whole situation? Have you ever experienced this? If not personally, can you think of a situation in a book or movie?

•• **VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU** [Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

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

What You Need: Bible

What You Do:

- Say one of the statements below and let kids volunteer to finish the statement.
- Use the statements more than once to give kids an opportunity to hear different responses to each statement.
- Feel free to add statements, especially if they tie in with your previous discussions.
- I can be a peacemaker at school by . . .
- I can be a peacemaker when I don't get my way by . . .
- When there is drama with my friend, I can be a peacemaker by . . .
- I know a peacemaker. Their name is . . .
- A peacemaker is someone who . . .
- Wrap up the activity by reading what Jesus says about peacemakers in Matthew 5:9.

What You Say: “You came up with some great ways to be a peacemaker. There are times it will be easy to be part of the solution and keep the peace, and there will be times it will be very difficult. This week as you practice being a peacemaker, I want you to remember Jesus’ words of encouragement: Blessed are those who make peace. They will be called children of God, (*Matthew 5:9, NIV*).”

PRAY AND SEND [Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

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:

- Challenge kids to think of one way they can practice being peacemakers this week and encourage them to share their idea with the group.
- Pair up the kids and have them pray for each other, specifically asking God for guidance on how they can be peacemakers this week.

Give each child a **GodTime** card. Sunday leaders, pass out **Parent Cue** cards to any adult who has not yet received one this month.