



**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?

•• **SHEEP SHARERS**

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



**What You Need:** “Sheep” activity page, cotton balls, glue sticks

**What You Do:**

- Give the cotton balls to one member in your group, the glue sticks to a second child, and the sheep cards to a third.
- Without giving any further instructions, tell the kids that they have five minutes (*or whatever amount of time you have*) to work on this project.
- Tell them to work as a team to use what you’ve given them in the best possible way they can think of.
- NOTE: It’s fine if kids don’t end up gluing the cotton balls to the “Sheep” (*unless they glue them to the walls!*). The goal is for them to figure out what they should do and share their supplies with their groupmates.

**What You Say:** “You did a great job figuring out what to do with each of the supplies you were given. Gluing some cotton to the sheep was a great idea. [Transition] Today in Sunday CM worship/WOW family worship, we’ll learn/we learned about a woman who figured out how to solve a very big 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.

●● **STAND BY YOUR ANSWER** [Talk about God | Bible Story Review | Application Activity]

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

**What You Need:** “Sheep” (*from Sheep Sharers activity*), “Plate,” “Bread” activity pages

**What You Do:**

- Place the sheep, plate, and bread in three different areas of your space.
- Explain that you will read a statement that could be something that was said by one of the people in today’s Bible story.
- If they think the statement is about Nabal, the rich guy with all the sheep, they should stand by the sheep.
- If it’s something about David, the hungry guy, they should stand by the plate.
- If the statement is about Abigail, Nabal’s wife, tell them to stand by the bread.
  - Before I became the king of Israel, my men and I often lived in the wilderness to hide from King Saul. (DAVID)
  - David often protected my sheep and servants from thieves. (NABAL)
  - Together with my servants, I gathered up food, sheep, and other supplies and loaded it up on donkeys. (ABIGAIL)
  - I wanted to teach Nabal a lesson for not sharing his food with us. (DAVID)
  - After all the sheep were sheared for the season, I threw a big feast. (NABAL)
  - I knew that David’s men were very good to us and kept us safe. (ABIGAIL)
  - I saw no reason to invite David and his men to MY feast. (NABAL)
  - The Lord kept me from getting even with Nabal. (DAVID)
  - Because I found a way to make peace, my entire household was saved. (ABIGAIL)
  - I sent my men to ask if we could have some food. (DAVID)
  - I apologized for how mean my husband had acted. (ABIGAIL)

**What You Say:** “In our story, Abigail proved she cared about others by helping to solve the problem Nabal caused. She did all she could



do to live in peace, didn't she? Instead of standing by while her family was in danger, she boldly stepped into action! While Nabal was ready to make war, Abigail was ready to make peace. She got food and gifts for David, she traveled to meet him, and she apologized for something she didn't even do! When you see a problem or conflict, **[Bottom Line] prove you care more about others by being part of the solution.** When you do, you'll be helping others see God's love in you."

●● **PROBLEM SOLVED** [Live for God | Application Activity]

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

**What You Need:** Yarn

**What You Do:**

- Assign the following problem-solving activity and encourage the kids to work together to find the best solution.  
—Challenge the kids to tie a knot in the rope or yarn while keeping one end in each hand and without letting go. Solution: Have them lay the rope on the floor. Tell them to crisscross their arms across their chest. Their left hand should be on the top right arm and the right hand should be under the left arm. Show them how to lean forward and grab each end of the rope with arms still crossed. As they uncross their arms they should move their hand with palms facing the ceiling. When they uncross their arms, a knot will appear in the rope.
- After the game, praise the kids for their problem-solving skills and invite them to come up with solutions to some real-life problems.
- With each situation, ask, "How can you **[Bottom Line] prove you care more about others by being part of the solution?**"  
—An older kid calls your friend a hurtful name.  
—A kid at school forgot her lunch and she looks really sad and hungry.  
—You see someone getting pushed down on the playground.  
—Your sisters are arguing about who gets the last granola bar.  
—Two of your friends are making up a lie about someone they don't like.  
—Every day your family argues about who gets to use the iPad®.
- **[Make It Personal] (Share a time when you chose to do more than you had to in order to be part of the solution and make peace in a situation.)**

**What You Say:** "Those were great solutions to some messy situations. Often, being part of a solution is simply going out of your way to show you care about someone. Remember, you can help bring peace to a problem, even if it's technically not YOUR problem. Instead of ignoring what's going on or hoping someone else steps in, ask God to help you know what to do to make peace. It might mean that you do a chore that's not usually yours to do, or say something kind to someone you don't like very much, or just be the kid who does what's right when everyone else isn't. When you do, you're being a peacemaker and proving that you care about those who are having a problem."

●● **SOUNDS LIKE PEACE** [Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

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

**What You Need:** Bibles

**What You Do:**

- Work together as a group to look up Romans 14:19. Read it out loud to your group, and then practice saying it together.
- Unpack the phrase "build each other up," emphasizing that building others up can be a great way to encourage peace. *(to say good things about each other, to help each other, to encourage each other)*
- Ask kids to describe and show you what people look and sound like when things ARE NOT peaceful. *(loud, angry, talking fast, a lot of commotion, sad, etc.)*
- Invite them to recite Romans 14:19 *(individually or as a group)* using their voice, body, and facial expression to look and sound "un-peaceful."



**PRINCE  
OF PEACE**  
Called to Connect

MARCH  
**18/21**  
2018

**GRADE K-1**  
SMALL GROUP EXPERIENCE

- Next, ask kids to describe and show you what people look and sound like when things ARE peaceful. (*calm, quiet, talking slowly, happy, etc.*)
- Invite them to recite Romans 14:19 once again (*individually or as a group*) using their voice, body, and facial expressions to look and sound “peaceful.”

**What You Say:** “When you choose to stay calm, speak softly, and say kind words, you’re helping to make peace. Just choosing to be the one who doesn’t yell can make a huge difference. Romans 14:19 tells us to do two things: First, do all we can to live in peace, and second, work hard to build each other up. Doing all you can to live in peace will sometimes mean that you’re going to have to help others live in peace too. You **[Bottom Line] prove you care about others by being part of the solution** to a problem, even if the problem isn’t yours. God wants you to help others, as well as yourself, live in peace.”

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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:** Bible

**What You Do:**

- Read the memory verse, Romans 14:19, to the kids and remind them that when they say nice things about each other, help and encourage each other, they are building others up. They are also doing their part to keep peace.
- Ask each person to think of two people they can build up this week. Take turns sharing the names. The first person to share a name should place one hand on the center of the table. The next person should share a name and place one of their hands on top of the first hand. Continue until everyone has shared two names and you have a large stack of hands on the table.

**What You Say:** “Dear God, please help each of us to be peacemakers this week with the people we named. We need your help to build them up and show them kindness. Help us to not be ‘problem causers’ this week but ‘peaceful problem solvers’ who step in and make things better. In Jesus’ name. 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.