

# Peace means proving you care more about each other than winning an argument.

WEEK  
1  
2ND-3RD

DAY 1

## Read Colossians 1:20

This month is all about peace. Peace is proving you care more about each other than winning an argument. If you think about it, that's what Easter is all about. God sent Jesus, His one and only Son, for us.

Jesus came to make things right between us and God. He took the punishment we deserved by dying on the cross. And then He rose again—He came back to life—to prove that nothing could ever separate us from God when we put our trust in Jesus. Easter matters because God made peace with us.

Find a trusted adult and read the following statements below. Do you have any questions? If so, talk about them together.

- **God made us.**
- **But our friendship with God was broken by sin.**
- **God loved us so much that He sent Jesus to fix that broken relationship.**
- **When we put our trust in Jesus, we can experience peace.**

Pray with your trusted adult and ask God to help you understand His big plans to bring peace to the world and peace to you.

DAY 2

## Read John 14:27

When Jesus came to earth, many hoped that He would be a leader who would rule and bring peace. And Jesus did come to bring peace, but not in the way they expected. Jesus came to bring us peace in our hearts.

God sent Jesus to pay the price for our sin. That's the peace that Jesus brings. When we put our trust in Jesus and what He has done for us, we can have peace.

Draw a gift box on a separate piece of paper. Write "PEACE" on the side of your box and draw a great big bow.

Thank God for sending Jesus to bring the gift of PEACE to you in a way that only He could.

DAY 3

### Read Isaiah 54:10

In the space below, write down some words that describe a mountain.

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Did you include words like strong, majestic, or big in your list? When you think about mountains, you might not be picturing them the way today's verse describes. Even if the mountains were to shake or the hills disappear, God's love for us never changes. And we can know that for sure because God is bigger and stronger than any majestic mountain range. He's the one who created them in the first place.

God's covenant or promise to us is peace. It's a peace that can never be shaken or removed. God made a promise to give us peace and He kept that promise by sending Jesus.

**Tell God you love Him.** Then, thank Him for loving you so much that He chose to send Jesus.

DAY 4

### Read Romans 5:1

$2+2=$  \_\_\_\_\_

$30+8=$  \_\_\_\_\_

$4 \times 3=$  \_\_\_\_\_

$12 \times 2=$  \_\_\_\_\_

Were any of those problems hard for you solve? Even if you needed a little help, those problems were fairly easy to solve.

Peace isn't quite so easy. When you have a conflict with someone, it's hard to see things from the other person's point of view. It's hard to stop and think, "How can we solve this problem?" in the middle of an argument. We're more interested in pointing out how the other person is wrong.

#### **Thankfully, God doesn't do that.**

God made people and people sinned. Instead of listening to God, we decided to do things our own way. But again, because God loves us, He sent Jesus to fix that problem. God had a solution to the sin problem even while people were still messing up. God sent Jesus to pay the price for our sin so we could be forgiven. We can have peace with God because of what Jesus has done. Thank God today for loving you so much that He sent Jesus to bring peace so that you can have a relationship with Him forever.

*God made peace with us*

# Peace means proving you care more about each other than winning an argument.

WEEK  
2  
2ND-3RD

DAY 1

## Read 2 Corinthians 13:11

Think about the last argument or disagreement you had with someone. What was it about?

Peace takes work. It's easy to get angry. It's much harder to work towards peace. Paul included these words at the end of his letter to the church in Corinth.. Paul tells us to work, to help, to agree, and to live in peace.

So, what was your last argument about and who was it with? Do you need to apologize for something you said or did when you argued? **Ask God to help you do the right thing, to say what you need to say so you can work towards peace.**

DAY 2

## Read Ephesians 4:3

Raise your hand if you love building with LEGO® blocks?

LEGO blocks are awesome but they aren't indestructible. In fact, the bigger the set, the more careful you have to be to protect it. Because if it gets knocked over, it's super frustrating to go back through all those instructions to put it back together. But with time and work, it can be fixed.

When Paul wrote these words, there were Jewish believers and Gentile believers and now they were all worshipping together. Each side had their own ideas and sometimes they clashed. So, keeping the peace took work. Paul wrote to remind them that because of Jesus, they really were one.

Peace is possible but we need the Holy Spirit to help us. Thankfully, we don't have to do it alone. When you trust in Jesus, you have help to live the way He wants you to live.

Carefully grab your favorite Lego creation or something else that's breakable and important to you. **Ask God to help you protect your relationships with others (just like you work to protect your favorite things) so you can keep the peace.**

DAY 3

### Read Colossians 3:15

Ask an adult to help you find some recyclable materials to build a bridge. Here are a few ideas:

- Toilet paper or paper towel tubes
- Cardboard / Paper
- Empty cereal or other small boxes

Set a timer for ten minutes and build a bridge using only the materials you've gathered.

When you have an argument or disagreement, peace can help you rebuild that relationship. **Peace is like bridge.** And the good news is, we don't have to keep the peace alone. We have help!

Go grab some tape or glue. Use it to connect the parts of your bridge to make it stronger. Once it's finished, grab a car or something else that rolls and see if your bridge holds up.

Remember, Christ gives us His peace to rule in our hearts. That means we can't really have peace without His help. He's like the glue holding everything together. Leave your bridge up this week as a reminder to "live in peace" with others.

DAY 4

### Read Numbers 6:24-26

God spoke these words to Moses as a message to give to the Israelites. It was a blessing He wanted Aaron (Moses' brother) and Aaron's sons to pray over the people. It was a reminder of God's goodness, His love and care for them and His promise to bring them peace.

Who are you having a hard time getting along with? Do you have the courage to pray these words over that person? Do you need to ask God to help you?

**Pray and tell God you're sorry for your part of the argument.** Ask Him to help you keep the peace. Then, write in the name of the person you're fighting with in all the blanks below and repeat the verse aloud. (Go into your closet or the bathroom if you want to be on your own as you pray.)

"May the Lord bless \_\_\_\_\_ and take good care of \_\_\_\_\_.

May the Lord smile on \_\_\_\_\_ and be gracious to \_\_\_\_\_.

May the Lord look on \_\_\_\_\_ with favor and give \_\_\_\_\_ peace."

*We can make  
peace with others.*

# Peace means proving you care more about each other than winning an argument.

WEEK  
3  
2ND-3RD

DAY 1

## Read 2 Thessalonians 3:16

Most likely, the last time you were in an argument you weren't thinking about peace at all. When there's a disagreement, all we want to do is win or be right or make the other person see it "our" way. But peace doesn't work like that. In fact, sometimes the most peaceful thing you can do is to give up and let it go. After all, you can show you care about others by walking away from a fight.

Read the first sentence of today's verse again. Who gives you peace? Where does it come from?

Yep, God gives peace. And the good news is, He has an endless supply!

Read the statement below, pausing after each line. Repeat it four times, picking a different voice for each round.

May the Lord who gives peace  
Give you peace  
At all times  
And in every way.

**Ask God to give you peace at all times, in every way, so that you can show you care by walking away from a fight.**

DAY 2

## Read Romans 12:18

When you're mad, like really mad, peace is hard. When someone says something mean, it's hard to walk away. That's when what you focus on becomes really important. Instead of thinking about what's been said or what's been done, what if you shifted your focus to peace, instead? There are actually lots of things you can do.

- You can stop.
- You can ask God to help you.
- You can walk away.
- You can talk to an adult.
- You can choose kind words instead of unkind words.

This week, when you find yourself getting really mad about something, instead of focusing on what's been done to you, try to focus on what you can do. **Ask God to help you live in peace with everyone, as much as you can.**

DAY 3

### Read Romans 14:19

When Paul wrote these words, there was a lot going on in the early church. Jews, who followed all kinds of laws about what to eat and wear and act, were worshipping right alongside Gentiles who had very different views. And anytime you get two different groups with two very different ideas together, there will definitely be some disagreements. Paul wanted them to stop finding fault and work hard to build each other up.

It's a good reminder for us too. Instead of insisting on our own way, we should seek to peace and look for ways to encourage each other. And when there's a disagreement or fight, sometimes the best way to bring peace is to simply walk away.

#### Hidden Words:

Find each word from the verse in the grid below by moving from square to square, in any direction. We've done one for you as an example. Then write down the five unused letters below to find the key word.

Live    Work    Hard    ~~Build~~    One

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| B | I | D | E | N |
| U | E | L | K | O |
| L | I | A | R | E |
| P | V | O | C | D |
| E | W | H | A | R |

KEY WORD:

\_\_\_\_\_

DAY 4

### Read Isaiah 32:17

Draw lines to connect the words below that have opposite meanings.

|           |       |
|-----------|-------|
| HIGH      | RIGHT |
| LIGHT     | SLOW  |
| LEFT      | END   |
| FAST      | LOW   |
| BEGINNING | DARK  |

What is the opposite of peace? Fighting!

#### Doing what is right brings peace and rest.

Choosing to listen instead of yell, stopping to take a deep breath instead of making a point, or walking away instead of throwing something at your brother is always the better choice. When you choose to do what is right instead of what you might WANT to do in the moment, you bring calm to the situation.

The next time you get into a disagreement with someone and you feel yourself getting angry, stop and simply walk away. You might be surprised how doing the opposite of what you feel like doing in the moment turns things around!

*You can show you care about others by walking away from a fight.*

Key word answer: PEACE

# Peace means proving you care more about each other than winning an argument.

WEEK  
4  
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DAY 1

## Read Matthew 5:9

Jesus spoke these words at the beginning of what we call “The Sermon on the Mount.” This is a longest recorded sermon in the Bible directly from Jesus. It’s kind of like His “constitution” or set of principles for believers (those who put their trust in Jesus) to follow.

Jesus tells us that those who make peace will be blessed. Not in, “Awesome, if I make peace with others, God will bless me with a cool new iPad” kind of way. Jesus wasn’t talking about being blessed with “stuff.” Jesus meant that we will be blessed as children of God. We’ll show others who God is and how much He loves them when we work to be peacemakers. Remember, you show you care about others by being part of the solution.

**At a meal this week with your family, ask an adult to read Matthew 5:1-12 and discuss the following the questions:**

- What are the eight “blessings” Jesus talks about?
- How are these values different from what we see sometimes in the world around us?
- When Jesus says, “Blessed” what was He talking about?

DAY 2

## Read Hebrews 12:14

Writing your name. Learning to read. Riding a bike.

What do all these things have in common? These are all things you have to try. You can’t learn to ride a bike without actually riding it. You can’t write your name without picking up and pencil and forming letters on the page.

In order to be peacemakers, you simply have to try. You don’t have to do it perfectly the first time. Here are few practical things you can try in order to bring the peace.

### **Stop arguing and listen.**

Take a deep breath and then count to ten before you say anything else. Walk away for a few minutes and think, “How can I bring peace right now?” Do not raise your voice or say something you don’t mean.

Pick one of these options to try this week whenever you find yourself in a situation that needs peace. Remember, you don’t have to do it perfectly but you can make an effort.

**Ask God to help you try your best to live in peace with everyone.**

DAY 3

### Read James 3:18

When you first plant a seed, you don't see results right away. But if you keep at it, if you care for it, water it, give it plenty of sun light, it will sprout and grow. The same is true of our relationships with others. We have to do everything we can to live in peace, to be part of the solution. We have to keep at it, knowing that in the long run, our relationships will be stronger and better when we work towards peace.

Are there any plants in your home? Write down the words of today's verse on a card and place it next to your plant. If you don't have a plant at home, grab a piece of paper, draw a picture of a plant and write the words of today's verse along the bottom of the page. Each time you walk by your plant, or drawing, remember that peace is something you have to work towards every day! It doesn't just "happen." **You have to keep at it, just like you tend to a plant to help it grow.**

DAY 4

### Read Romans 5:1

Have you ever tasted a batch of French fries or tortilla chips without salt? Did you find yourself adding salt to make them taste better?

Just like salt makes those fries so much better, peace makes our relationships better! When there is a conflict, it's much better to work towards peace, to find a solution. It's impossible to agree on everything but you can work towards peace, even when you have a different point of view.

Make a Peacemaker Salt Shaker. Create a label by wrapping a piece of paper around a salt shaker from your kitchen and then cut around it. Make sure you leave the top uncovered so you can still get to the salt! Decorate and write the following words on your wrapper "Be a peacemaker!" then tape it around the shaker to secure.

**Each time anyone in your family grabs the salt this week, remind them to be a peacemaker!**

*You can show you care about others by being part of the solution.*