

Reconnect: Build The Bridge

Use this guide to help your family learn about how
God wants us to live in peace with others.

First, watch
this week's
video!

Peace:
Proving you
care more
about each
other than
winning an
argument

Memory Verse

"So let us do all
we can to live in
peace. And let us
work hard to build
up one another."
Romans 14:19, NIV

Bible Story

Isaac's Wells
Genesis 26:1-6,
12-22, 26-31

Bottom Line

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

Activity

Tossing Away the Fight

What You Need:

A ball or beanbag

What You Do:

Tell your child that you're going to play a game. Stand, facing each other, and give your child a scenario. If they think the scenario is worth fighting over, they'll hold onto the ball. But if they think they should walk away from that fight, they'll throw the ball to you.

(Remember to return the ball, if they throw it to you, before giving them the next scenario.)

Scenarios:

- Someone makes a face at you in the cafeteria.
- Someone cuts in front of you in line.
- At a party, there are four cookies left. The kid in front of you takes THREE!
- While you're at the park, someone calls you a name.
- When your sister divides the leftover Easter candy, she takes more for herself.
- The kid behind you on the bus keeps kicking the seat, trying to annoy you.
- At recess, someone pushes by you to get the last swing.

Say, "In our story today, Isaac had a choice. He could have chosen to fight to provide food and water for his people. But he walked away from that fight because he knew it was more important to live in peace with others. Let's think through some peaceful ways we could handle some of the situations from our game."

Talk About the Bible Story

How do you think it felt for Isaac to walk away from his wells?

Have you ever been in a situation where you really didn't want to walk away from a fight? Maybe with a sibling, or a friend at school? What happened?

How do you know when you should walk away from a fight?

How does walking away from a fight show that you care about others?

Parent: share a situation where you walked away from a fight (or argument) and were thankful for it later.

Prayer

Use this prayer as a guide, either after talking about the Bible story or sometime before bed tonight:

God, as we learn about Isaac today, we realize that sometimes walking away from a fight is the only way to live in peace. It's hard to do that, especially when we think we're right. God, help us to see people and situations the way You see them. Help us to remember how important peace is to You. Please give us the strength to make peace with one another. In Jesus' name we pray, amen!"

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

WEEK
3
4-5TH

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:

key word answer: PEACE

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.