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## 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, NIrV

#### **Bible Story**

Live in Peace with Others Colossians 3:15

#### **Bottom Line**

We can make peace with others.

## Activity

#### Peace or No Peace

#### What You Need:

Two sheets of paper; tape; something to write with

#### What You Do:

Before you get started, read Colossians 3:15 out loud to your child. Spend a few moments talking about what the word "peace" means.

Write down the words "NO PEACE" on one sheet of paper and "PEACE" on another sheet of paper. Tape them to two different sides of the room.

Tell your child that you're going to give them a scenario. They have to decide whether or not the action brings peace or does not bring peace. They can answer by running to the side of the room with the sign that matches their response.

Scenarios:

- There's a new kid in your class who acts differently, and the other kids stay away from her. You ask her to play with you at recess.
- There are two cookies left in the box. Instead of eating both, you eat one and give one to your brother.
- There's only one piece of Easter candy left. You take it and eat it before your sister figures it out.
- You let your friend choose which game to play.
- You run and push ahead so you can be first in line on the slides at recess.
- You and your friend have a fight. You say you're sorry first.
- There's a kid at school who looks different from you. You invite him to your party so you can become friends.

## **Talk About the Bible Story**

For the "no peace" scenarios in our game, let's come up with some ways we could make peace in those situations. (Guide your child to think of some hypothetical peacemaking solutions for the "no peace" situations from earlier.)

Is there anyone you feel like you're always living in "no peace" with? What can you do to make peace with that person?

Who can you talk to when you need help figuring out how to make peace?

Parent: share a situation in which you had to create peace in a difficult relationship.



## Prayer

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

"God, thank You so much for Your peace. Thank You for showing us how much You care for us by sending Jesus to be our Savior. God, we know there are times when it's difficult for us to live in peace with others. There are people in our lives who frustrate us or annoy us. Help us to make peace, especially with (pause and prompt your child to fill in the name of the person they need to make peace with). God, we know that You are the ultimate Peacemaker, and You'll help us make peace with others. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen."

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



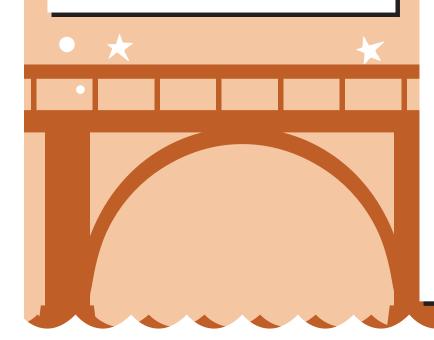
DAY 1

## 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<sup>®</sup> 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.

We can make peace with others.

## Read Numbers 6:24-26

DAY 4

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."