

City LG - June 15-16, 2019

Bible Story: Peaceful Easy Feeling (Don't Worry) • *Matthew 6:25-27*

Bottom Line: You can have peace because God is in control.

Memory Verse: *The fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself.*
Galatians 5:22-23a, NIRV

CG: 2-Minute Countdown

WORSHIP: "At the Top of My Lungs" and "Turn it Up"

(Worship Leader prays)

WELCOME:

Supplies Needed: Backpack (1 per Campus), Bible, "Peace" Sign (1 per Campus) and Jumbo Jenga Blocks (10 blocks per Campus)

"Hi, everyone! My name is [your name], and I've brought this backpack with me today because I thought it might be helpful for our story. *(Hold up the backpack.)* I'll just set it over here for now.

Set the backpack down where it's visible on stage.

"Today we'll be looking in the book of Matthew in the New Testament. *(Hold up Bible.)* Matthew was one of the 12 disciples—or followers—of Jesus. He was one of Jesus' closest friends. Matthew spent a lot of time with Jesus, and he wrote the book of Matthew to help people understand who Jesus was. One day Jesus was speaking to His disciples about how we can have peace. Matthew wrote down what He said.

"Here's what Jesus told His friends.

Open the Bible to Matthew 6:25-27 (NIRV) and read.

"I tell you, do not worry. Don't worry about your life and what you will eat or drink. And don't worry about your body and what you will wear. Isn't there more to life than eating? Aren't there more important things for the body than clothes? Look at the birds of the air. They don't plant or gather crops. They don't put away crops in storerooms. But your Father who is in heaven feeds them. Aren't you worth much more than they are? Can you add even one hour to your life by worrying?"

"So, let me ask you: what are some things you worry about? When do you feel out of control?

As kids are naming things they worry about, begin putting blocks into the backpack. If they can't name many things they worry about, you can add some suggestions, too. Examples: grades, sickness, being in the dark, getting lost, storms, friends moving away, etc.

“There are lots of times when it feels like we’re out of control. Our worries can feel like a huge weight on our backs. It’s as though we’re carrying a big, heavy backpack like this one. In fact, I wonder if I could get a volunteer to come up here and help me show you something for a minute.

Choose an older kid volunteer to come up and help. You’ll want to choose a kid you can trust to follow instructions. Pause after each question to allow time for the kid volunteer to answer.

(To kid) “Can you try to pick up this backpack? Is it heavy? Let me ask you this: would you want to wear it around all day? Would you want to wear it when you’re playing soccer? How about if you’re running on the track at school? Would you want to carry this backpack then? Why not?”

“I think we’d all agree there are a lot of things that can make us feel worried or afraid, and we aren’t sure what to do about it. When we feel that way, how can we remember that God is still in control? I think today’s Bible Story Video will help us with that question. Let’s take a look!”

*Have child take backpack off for the video and return to their seat. **As the video plays, take the blocks out of the backpack.***

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 6:30)

“When we remember that God is in control we don’t have to carry around all those heavy worries anymore. We have something else to put in our backpack instead. Any guesses as to what that something might be? *(Pause for response.)* That’s right: peace. We can have TRUE peace that can only come from trusting God.

Hold up a block.

“That doesn’t mean you won’t have things that make you feel worried—like spelling tests. But you don’t have to put that worry in your backpack and carry it around with you. See, when you trust God, you don’t carry those worries and fears and bad feelings with you. You feel God’s peace instead.

Hold up the sheet of paper with “Peace” written on it. Put it in the empty backpack.

“And you know what? His peace is light as a feather. *(To kid)* [Kid’s name], can you come up again now and put this backpack on your back.

Let the kid pick up the backpack and put it on.

“Feels pretty good, doesn’t it? *(To audience)* Let’s give [kid’s name] a hand, everyone. *(To kid)* Thanks for helping me today!”

Take the backpack back from the kid as you dismiss him to his seat.

“It’s natural for us to worry. There are things that happen every day that make us feel scared, unsure, or out of control.

“But in those moments, we can choose to remember what Jesus said. We can remember how God takes care of the birds, which means He’ll take care of us, too. We can choose to remember how God has taken care of us in the past. We can talk to God about how we’re feeling. Then we’ll find His peace.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “You can have peace because God is in control.

“Let’s pray and ask God to help us trust Him.”

Pray: “Dear God, thank You for helping us to remember today that You are in control. Please help us remember that the next time we feel worried or afraid. Give us hearts that trust You so we can feel Your peace. We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

“So, when you find yourself worrying, talk to God about it! Remind yourself that God knows everything and can do anything. Before we head to Small Groups, let’s worship God with our offering!”

Offering Time:

“Offering time is a chance for us to bring our money to God, so he can use it to make somebody else’s life better. For us, here in the City, we give our offering to an organization called ‘Missions of Hope’ to help kids in Kenya have food, clothes, and learn about God’s love for them.”

Here at (your Campus name), we bring our offering to help support:

Homer Glen: Victor

New Lenox: Daniel

Orland Park: Michael and Valerie

CG: Picture of Child

“(Your Campus Child) lives in Nairobi, Kenya. Here’s a picture of some homes in Nairobi!”

CG: Kenyan Homes JPEG

If you brought your offering today, you can bring it up now and place it here in our offering container while our Offering Video plays! (*show offering container*).”

CG: Offering Video “MC Haggis Video” (Runtime: 3:00)

Dismiss kids to their small groups.