

Alley Rundown—April 10th-12th, 2021

Today's Bible Story: Give Me Peace on Earth (Live in Peace with Others) • *Colossians* 3:15

Today's Key Question: Who do you need to make peace with?

Today's Bottom Line: We can make peace with others.

Monthly 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)

NOTE: Welcome Kids by Name. Go above and beyond this week because of the many kids you may only see today (returning from Easter). This is your chance to make an impact and connect! If kids brought an offering, you can show them where to put it (in the offering bin) and talk to them a little about the kids we sponsor.

CG: Dude Perfect Filler Videos

CONNECT GAME: Bridge the Gap

Supplies Needed: Stack of Plastic Cups, 2 Tape Measures, Bag of Ping Pong Balls Hero/Rival Cards (1 set per kid) (for later activity)

CHOOSE CONTESTANTS. Choose two teams of two to play. For each round. The more round with multiple different kids/teams the better! One person will stand between the two center lines and hold the tape measure. The other will stand next to the cup at the closest line to their teammate.

BUILD A BRIDGE. On "Go," the contestant holding the tape measure will start stretching the tape out toward their teammate. The object here is to get the tape measure to reach the cup and build a bridge. Next the contestant holding the tape measure will grab a ping pong ball and place it on the tape. The person holding the cup will raise or lower the cup allowing the ping pong ball to roll towards the cup. The object is to get the ping pong ball in the cup. If you roll too fast the ball will fall off, but if you roll too slow, you will lose. If the ball falls off the bridge, pick up a new ball and start again. Once the ball reaches the cup, the person holding the tape measure allows it to roll back up, and the person holding the cup sits it down and retrieves the ball. The teammates switch positions and start on the next bridge. First team to successfully move a ping pong ball to all four cups wins!

After the Game...

"Hey, everyone! Great to see you all. As we get started, I want to know: how well do you think you know famous superheroes? Do you think you could match them with their biggest rivals? Think so? Well, how about a little group competition to find out. I need someone from each small group to come up and grab one of these stacks. No peeking yet! When I say go, separate the heroes from the rivals. Then match the heroes with their greatest rivals. Who thinks they got this?"

Each kid gets a stack of cards.

“When you think you are done, leave them matched on the ground by your group and then sit down. Ready, set, GO!”

Kids match heroes and rivals, announcing when they are done.

“Alright, let’s see how you all did. Let’s go through them.”

The following slides are in pairs. First reveal hero side. Have kids yell out the rival. Then reveal the second slide in the group to confirm the right answer. You can add commentary as you see fit to keep the energy high.

Slides: #1 Superman & Lex Luther

Slides: #2 Batman & Joker

Slides: #3 Professor X & Magneto

Slides: #4 Sherlock Holmes & Moriarty

Slides: #5 Thor & Loki

Slides: #6 Spiderman & Green Goblin

Slides: #7 The Incredibles & Syndrome

Slides: #8 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles & Shredder

“Great job, everyone!”

“Some of those were simple—others not so much. Either way, these heroes and rivals all have something in common: they are always at odds with one another. Movie to movie, episode to episode, they never figure out how to fix their relationships. They’re both doomed to compete and argue and fight—even if they are related! It is probably not *quite* the same with us, but have you ever had someone who you just can’t get along with? You know you should live at peace with them but just can’t do it? Anyone? Yeah, me too. Even though we know better, getting along with others can be really difficult. That’s why we need help. We can discover the source of that help when we dive into the truth found in the Bible. Remember, the Bible was written by people who had a personal experience with God. God inspired them to write about it so people like us could learn from it—thousands of years later! Let’s dive in together with the help of this week’s Episode.”

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 10:30)

“Check out this verse from Paul’s letter to the Colossian church. After talking to them about their new life in Christ and what it means to now live as true followers of Jesus, Paul wrote this:

Colossians 3:15 says:

“Let the peace that Christ gives rule in your hearts. As parts of one body, you were appointed to live in peace.”

“Now this is not a long verse, but there is so much here for us. First, Paul tells us that peace, the peace that comes from Jesus, was meant to rule in our hearts. We were meant to live in peace!

When we go through conflict and fights with others, it should feel really unnatural because we weren't made for that. We weren't made to be ruled by bitterness and anger. We were made to be ruled by peace.

"Now, did anyone hear the metaphor Paul used to describe this peace in us? (*Pause for responses.*) A body. Think about your body. You have all of these parts that are working together. Like (*demonstrating*) when I walk from here over to the other side of the room, do you know just how many parts of my body are involved in this? (*Pretending to count*) So many! And if one of them is out of sync, what happens? Well maybe I trip, go the wrong way, or bump into something. The body works in sync—or at peace—in order to accomplish one task, over and over and over. And Paul tells us that we, not just me by myself, but WE together were made to live like this. Working together in peace with each other."

"I'm sure we can all think of a time when we built a wall when we should have built a bridge. And the thing is, it probably takes even more energy to build a wall . . . because then we have to keep it up and stay upset and stay guarded against the person we are upset with. Building a bridge to make peace with someone is tough, but it is not impossible. How do I know? Because Jesus set the example for us. We love because He loved us first. We forgive because He forgave us first. God doesn't ask us to do what He hasn't already done for us.

"I wonder how many good years people like Fred and Joe lost because of silly arguments, or how people like Josh and Dan could have helped each other out if something hadn't messed up their friendships. But what if they had all found a way to build a bridge instead? What if they were able to live in peace and work together? I think it would be a much different outcome."

I want us to think about this question as we wrap up today:

SLIDE: Key Question

"Who do you need to make peace with? In other words, could you find yourself in one of these scenarios? Do you have any walls up right now? And if so, what would it look like to build a bridge instead? You'll get the chance to talk more about this with your Small Group. Before we head out, let's pray and ask God to help us with the courage it might take to make peace. Let's pray."

Lead group in a prayer related to what they just heard. After prayer, dismiss kids to Small Groups.