

## City LG—April 17th-19th, 2021

**Today's Bible Story:** War and Peace (Isaac's Wells) • *Genesis 26:1-6, 12-22, 26-31*

**Today's Bottom Line:** You can show you care about others by walking away from a fight.

**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 (NIRV)

### **Pre-Service Activity: The Floor is Lava**

**Supplies Needed: Twister Spinner (use for colors only)**

**Colored Cardstock (green, red, yellow, blue)**

3...2...1 THE FLOOR IS LAVA. Start the game by shouting "the floor is lava" and have everyone find a rock to stand on.

SPIN AND GO. Spin your color wheel and once it lands on a color, shout it out. Every player will need to get to one of the rocks of that color. Players can jump to rocks that are not that color to get to the right color but must end on the chosen color for that round or they are out.

LAST PLAYER STANDING. If a player touches anything other than a rock they are out. If a player can't make it to a rock because they are too far away they are out. If there aren't enough rocks for a player to get on for that specific color they are out.

PICK UP AND GO AGAIN. After each round have a few adult leaders pick up a few of the rocks players started that round on. So if the players were on yellow rocks and then had to move to red rocks then pick up a few of the yellow rocks. Once the rocks have been removed spin the wheel and play another round. Keep going until you have one winner!

**WORSHIP: Something Good and Look to You**

*Worship Leader prays...*

**Supplies Needed: 1 Prepared Set of 6 Boxes (per Campus) (Splash, Gulp, Angry, Fanfare, Footsteps, Shovel)**

"Hello, friends! I've got a great story of peace for you today. It's about a man named Isaac, and it comes from the book of Genesis (*hold up Bible*)—near the beginning of the Bible.

“Isaac was actually the son of a man named Abraham. You might remember that God made a very special promise to Abraham. God said that ALL nations on Earth would be blessed because of Abraham’s family.

“Well, God made those same promises to Abraham’s son, Isaac. God told Isaac . . .

*Open the Bible to Genesis 26:4 (NirV) and read.*

*“I will make your children after you as many as the stars in the sky. And I will give them all these lands. All nations on earth will be blessed because of your children.*

“I brought these coolers to help me tell Isaac’s story with a few sound effects. Like this.

*Open the box marked SPLASH.*

**AUDIO: Splash**

*Each time, close the box after the sound is done.*

“Oh, good. They seem to work just fine.”

*Note: We suggest having a printed copy of the script for reference so you can easily set up the audio cues for the person who runs sound.*

“We’ll pick up the story when Isaac was living in the land of the Philistines. During that time, there was a famine in the land. A famine means there’s not enough food for people to eat. All over the country, there weren’t enough crops for everyone to have food. But God blessed Isaac’s crops, so HE had food and water.

*Open the GULP box.*

**AUDIO: Gulping water**

“The Philistines who lived nearby were jealous of Isaac. So they complained.

*Open the ANGRY box.*

**AUDIO: Angry trombone**

“Guess what else they did. *(Pause.)* They filled Isaac’s wells with DIRT! That’s so mean!

*Open the SPLASH box.*

**AUDIO: Splash**

“The king of the Philistines was named Abimelek.

*Open the FANFARE box.*

**AUDIO: Royal fanfare**

“King Abimelek told Isaac to leave because Isaac had become too powerful. But Isaac didn’t get mad. He kept his cool and did what the king asked. He moved down to the Valley of Gerar, where his father Abraham had lived many years before.”

*Open the FOOTSTEPS box.*

**AUDIO: Footsteps walking away**

“Once they got to their new land, Isaac’s men started digging.

*Open the SHOVEL box.*

**AUDIO: Shoveling dirt**

“They dug up Abraham’s wells to open them again . . . and sure enough, they found water!

*Open the GULP box.*

**AUDIO: Gulping water**

“But the Philistines started arguing and complaining again.

*Open the ANGRY box.*

**AUDIO: Angry trombone**

“The Philistines said that these new wells also belonged to them and that Isaac and his men had to leave. Again, Isaac decided to keep the peace. He and his men left.

*Open the FOOTSTEPS box.*

**AUDIO: Footsteps walking away**

“Isaac’s men dug ANOTHER well.

*Open the SHOVEL box.*

**AUDIO: Shoveling dirt**

“And again, they found water.

*Open the GULP box.*

**AUDIO: Gulping water**

“But guess what happened! I bet you can tell me. *(Pause for response.)* You got it. The Philistines argued about THAT well, too.

*Open the ANGRY box.*

**AUDIO: Angry trombone**

“So Isaac moved on and dug yet ANOTHER well.

*Open the SHOVEL box.*

**AUDIO: Shoveling dirt**

“They found water.

*Open the GULP box.*

**AUDIO: Gulping water**

“But this time, the Philistines DIDN’T argue with them. *(Take a deep breath.)* What a relief!”

“One day, King Abimelek and a group of his advisers came to visit Isaac.

*Open the FANFARE box.*

**AUDIO: Royal fanfare**

“Listen to what they told Isaac.

*Open the Bible to Genesis 26:28-29*

*“We saw clearly that the LORD was with you. So we said, ‘There should be an agreement between us and you.’ We want to make a peace treaty with you. Give us your word that you won’t harm us. We didn’t harm you. We always treated you well. We sent you away peacefully. And now the LORD has blessed you.*

“It turns out the Philistines wanted to keep the peace, too! They didn’t want to fight over water anymore. Isaac prepared a feast for the Philistines . . . and early the next morning, they made an agreement to keep the peace with each other. Who knows—maybe they even had some water to celebrate!

*Open the GULP box.*

**AUDIO: Gulping water**

“After that, the Philistines left.”

*Open the FOOTSTEPS box.*

**AUDIO: Footsteps walking away**

*Walk in front of the boxes.*

“Let’s stop right here and watch this week’s Episode!”

**CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 10:00)**

“Isaac had chosen to stay strong and walk away from a fight—three times in a row! He had **made the wise choice**, even though it must have been difficult. And God blessed him with peace!

“We can learn a lot from Isaac’s story. Let’s remember this . . .

**SLIDE: Bottom Line**

**[Bottom Line]** “**You can show you care about others by walking away from a fight.**

“Let’s pray and ask God to help us do that.”

**PRAY:** “Dear God, thank You so much for giving Isaac the strength to make peace. It probably wasn’t easy for him to walk away when the Philistines were causing trouble. Please help us choose peace like he did. Help us know when it’s wise to stand up and when it’s wise to walk away. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

“It’s important for us to make peace with the people around us. Isaac certainly thought that was true.

“I mean, think about it. It wasn’t fair that the Philistines were so mean to Isaac. It would have been really easy for him to be mean back. But instead, Isaac walked away. He chose to make peace. And because of that, the Philistines trusted him enough to make a peace treaty—so they wouldn’t have any more disagreements in the future.

“Remember . . .

**SLIDE: Bottom Line**

**[Bottom Line]** “**You can show you care about others by walking away from a fight.**

“If you’re frustrated or mad, and you’re not sure you can walk away, stop and think for a minute. Think about Jesus. Remember what He did for us. Jesus died on the cross because He knew it was part of God’s plan. He knew it was the only way to make peace with us, once and for all.

“And don’t forget—sometimes it IS important to stand up for yourself. Peace doesn’t mean that you have to give up what’s right. If you’re in a tough situation, and you aren’t sure what to do, you can always talk to your mom or dad, your Small Group Leader, your teacher, or another adult who can help.

**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**

***Direct Kids attention to the Posters in your Room***

“(Your Campus Child) lives in Nairobi, Kenya and goes to school at Mission of Hope International!”

If you brought your offering today, you can bring it up now and place it here in our offering container! (*show offering container*). It was so great to be here with you today. I hope you have fun in Small Group, and I'll see you next time, okay?”

*Dismiss kids to their small groups.*