

City SG—April 10th-12th, 2021

1. Opening Activity (or for EARLY ARRIVERS)

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Tell the group that you're going to play a game.
- Two kids will play each round of the game.
- Explain that you will call out a body part and a color.
- The two kids in that round will find an object of that color and touch it with the assigned part.
- The first kid to complete the task in each round, wins.
- Choose two other kids to play the next round.
- Continue as long as time and interest allow.

What You Say:

“You did a great job finding those objects. *[Transition]* **In Large Group we found out what different parts of the body have to do with peace. Let's work together peacefully with one another!**”

2. A Different Perspective

What You Need: Paper (1 per kid)

What You Do:

- Hand a blank piece of paper to each kid.
- Ask the kids to stand somewhere in the room, six feet apart from each other.
- Instruct the kids to close their eyes.
- Explain that you will give some step-by-step instructions for them to follow.
- Instruct the kids NOT to ask any questions while you do the activity.
- If a kid is confused about the instructions, instruct them to continue the activity as THEY understand the directions.
- Direct the kids to do the following steps:
 - Fold the paper in half.
 - Fold the paper in half again.
 - Tear off the bottom right corner.
 - Turn the paper upside down.
 - Tear off the other bottom right corner.
- When you have told them all of the instructions, ask the kids to open their eyes and hold their paper up so everyone can see everyone else's paper.

What You Say:

“Look around. What do you notice? Everyone's paper looks different, doesn't it? How did you feel when you saw what your paper looked like compared to everyone else's? Did anyone think you did it wrong when you saw how others did theirs? I gave everyone the same instructions, yet everyone's paper looks different! There were a lot of different ways to interpret my instructions.

“In the same way, there can be a lot of different ways to think about the same situation or conflict. What you think is unfair, someone else might think is totally fair. When you’re in the middle of a conflict, it’s wise to slow down and try to look at it from the other person’s side.

[Bottom Line] We can make peace with others when we take the time to listen to other people’s ideas rather than insisting we are right.”

[Make it Personal] (Share about a time when you had a conflict with someone and chose to make peace with them. Were you the first to apologize? Did you compromise? Did you listen more intently to gain a different perspective? Did you find a solution that satisfied everyone? Help kids see that they’re designed to be creative and can initiate the peacemaking process by letting God guide their hearts.)

3. Peace Bridge

What You Need: “Memory Verse” Cards (2 sets per Group), “Peace” Signs (2 per Group, per Service), paper clips (2 bags of 12 per group), yarn (2 long pieces per Group), blue tape (1 roll per group), cones (4 per Group), Pens (room supplies)

What You Do:

- Divide the group into two teams.
- Choose one kid from each team to be the “writer.”
- Give each of the writers a pen and a “Peace” sign.
- Ask the group to share some unique ways they can build peace with others. (*Some ideas: asking for forgiveness, forgiving others, listening better, compromising, walking away, changing your attitude, letting go of your ideas, asking trusted adults for advice*)
- As the kids share their ideas, ask the writers to write the ideas on the “Peace” sign.
- Tape a start line and a finish line.
- Guide teams to each form a line behind the starting line.
- At the finish line, place two sets of cones, six feet apart, and tape a piece of string or yarn between them.
- Place each team’s “Memory Verse” cards and paper clips next to each set of cones at the finish line.
- Position each team’s “Peace” sign on the floor, under each team’s yarn.
- Instruct the teams to build a “Bridge over Peace” by hanging the verse cards in the correct order on the string with the paper clips.
 - At your signal, the first kid from each team will run to their team’s boxes, select a card, and hang it on the string.
 - Then it’s the next kid’s turn.
 - Teams should repeat this process, relay-style, until all cards hang on the string in the correct verse order.
 - The first team to construct the verse and build the “Bridge over Peace” successfully, wins.

What You Say:

“Our memory verse tells us that we should do all we can to build peace with each other. All of you had great suggestions on how we can build peace. Which of the suggested ideas do you think you would have a hard time doing? (*Pause for responses.*) Making and keeping peace with others is not always easy—like our memory verse says. The good news is that you can experience real peace when you have a relationship with Jesus. That peace can give you the courage and the strength to do the hard work to make peace with others. **[Bottom Line] We can make peace with others.**”

4. Pray and Dismiss

What You Need: “Peace” signs from Activity 3

What You Do:

- Place both of the “Peace” Activity Pages with written ideas on the floor.
- Ask the kids to gather around them.
- Invite the kids to recite the Bottom Line together a few times. **[Bottom Line] We can make peace with others.**
- Ask the kids to take a few minutes to silently ask God to remind them of one person they need to make peace with.
- Encourage them to look at the “Peace” Activity Pages and pick an idea they could use to make peace with that person.
- If you have kids who say they don’t need to make peace with anyone right now, guide them to think about the last time they needed to make peace with someone.
- Close in prayer.

What You Say:

“Dear God, thank You for caring for us so much that You sent Jesus, the Prince of Peace, to sacrifice Himself for us. Thank You for giving us peace in our hearts that allows us to live in peace with others, no matter what the circumstances. Please help us make peace with (*pause and ask kids to silently insert the name of the person they wish to make peace with*). We need Your peace and help to see a different perspective when we feel like arguing or winning. Thank You that **[Bottom Line] we can make peace with others.** We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

HAND OUT GOD TIME SHEETS

Children will receive a prize when they bring their God Time Sheets back the following week!