

Alley SG - March 3-4, 2018

Bible Truth: Go Your Own Way (Abram Makes Peace) • *Genesis 13:5-18*

Bottom Line: Prove you care more about others by letting go of “what’s fair.”

Key Question: Why is it so hard to give up what you think is fair?

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*

1. Just For Fun

What You Need: A deck of cards, paper, and pen

What You Do:

- Kids **sit** in a circle.
- **Shuffle** the cards and **give** each kid a card facing down.
- Without looking at their card, kids **place** their cards on their foreheads so the rest of the group can see it.
- The goal of the game is to have the highest card in order to win points each round.
- **Start** with the kid to your right and continue around the circle.
 - Kids take turns and decide, after looking at everyone else’s cards, if they want to “HOLD ON” or “LET GO” of their cards.
 - If they decide to “LET GO,” they remove their card from their forehead.
 - After each kid decides to “LET GO” or “HOLD ON” the kid with the highest card left showing on his forehead wins a point.
 - If you decided to “HOLD ON” to your card and you weren’t the highest card showing, you get a point subtracted from your score.
 - If you “LET GO,” your score remains unchanged.
 - You might need to give a few strategy hints to kids if they seem confused. If most of the cards are below 8, the odds are in your favor that you’ll have a card higher than everyone else’s. If, however, you look at everyone’s cards and they are on the high end (8-Jack and above), it would probably be best to “Let Go” of your card so you don’t risk losing a point.
 - After each round, collect the cards, shuffle, and pass out a new card to each kid. Continue play.
- **Play** several rounds.
- **Be** sure to rotate who starts each round.
- Use the paper and pen to keep score. The person with the highest score wins.

2. Take a Snapshot

What You Need: Airheads Candy; one for each kid

What You Do:

- **Gather** kids and have them sit in a circle.
- **Place** candy bars in the center of the circle.
- **Ask:**
 - What are some ways we could distribute the candy among the group?
 - Play out each suggestion for distributing the candy.

Examples could be:

- Take turns selecting a piece of candy. Discuss ways to determine the order of who gets to choose first, second, etc.
- Pass out the candy randomly and kids can swap if they want to.
- Put the candy in a bag and kids blindly select the candy.
- What way did you think was the fairest way to distribute the candy? Why?
- **Collect** all the candy and **give** it to one kid.
- **Ask:**
 - What if I just gave the all the candy to (*pick a kid*) and told him he didn't have to share it and then I gave nothing to anyone else? What would you think of that? Would it be fair?
 - Would you rather be the kid who got the all of candy or the kid who didn't get any candy?
- Leader collect candy and keep it for Activity 5

3. Discussion Questions

What You Need: Bibles

What You Do:

- **Read** Genesis 13:14-18
 - How did the Lord respond to Abram's actions?
 - What does it say about how God values peace over fairness?
 - How did Abram respond to God?
- **Ask:**
 - How can we get over what is unfair and have peace?
 - How often are things fair?
 - Do some people care about fairness more than others?

4. Peace / No Peace

What You Need: White floor tape

What You Do:

- Create a tape line on the floor to separate your small group area into two sections.
- Explain that you will read a scenario (from the list below) and the kids will jump to one side if the scenario is an example of "peace" or to the other if it's an example of "no peace."
- Designate one side as the "peace" side and one as the "no peace" side and review these sides with the kids.
- Make sure that all kids stand on the centerline as you read each scenario so they can jump to one side or the other.
- You'll notice that the last three scenarios are open-ended. Call on different kids to complete each example with a "peace" or "no peace" solution.

Scenarios:

1. Your little brother gets invited to a birthday party at the new trampoline park—a place you've never been to. You get SUPER mad and tell him you hope he doesn't have any fun.

2. A friend brings in stickers for all her friends but doesn't give you one. You decide it's not a big deal and continue to be kind to her anyway.
3. It's Walk to School Day for your sister so your mom walks with her. But when you had Walk to School Day last year, your mom was sick and you didn't get to go. You realize your mom couldn't help being sick and tell them to have a great time walking to school together!
4. The ref makes a call in your basketball game that you think is totally wrong. You get so mad you chuck the ball off the court.
5. The teacher thinks you were talking at your table during quiet reading time when it was really the kid sitting next to you. You argue with her and get in more trouble.
6. You clean up most of the toys outside and your sister only picks up one thing. But when she comes inside, your sister takes all the credit. You decide to just let it go.
7. Your brother gets the last sour cherry ring pop and you're stuck with watermelon. You hate watermelon. But you say thank you anyway.
8. The kid next to you got an A on his test after bragging to you that he didn't even study. You missed two of the words. What do you do?
9. When you split a cookie with your brother, he gets the bigger half. What do you do?
10. Your sister gets to pick the movie to watch on your long car trip, but she got to pick it the last time too. What do you do?

What You Say:

"All of these scenarios were examples of unfair situations. We all face the 'that's not fair' stuff at home, at school, everywhere. Why? Because it's impossible for everything to be fair all the time in every situation. And if you're holding on to making sure everything is fair, you'll probably be disappointed! Instead, we need to seek peace. Remember, peace is proving you care more about each other than winning an argument. Your brother is more important than a cookie. Your relationship with a friend is WAY more important than a sticker. In the moment, it might seem like making things fair is the best solution. But to keep the peace, we have to let go of what's fair. So this week, let's **[Bottom Line]** prove you care more about others by letting go of what's fair."

5. Make it Personal with Prayer

What You Need: Candy from 'Take a Snapshot' activity

What You Do:

- **Pass out** the candy from 'Take a Snapshot' Activity using one of the ways the kids identified as a fair way to distribute the candy.
- **Close** in prayer.

What You Say:

Dear God, it is hard to have peace when things don't seem fair. Help us to be like Abram and put the needs and wants of others before our own. As we go through our week, help us to do all we can to live in peace and to build each other up. Amen.