

Alley Rundown—April 24th-26th, 2021

Today's Bible Story: The Peacemaker (Abigail Intervenes) • 1 Samuel 25:1-35

Today's Key Question: What are ways you can be a peacemaker?

Today's Bottom Line: You can show you care about others by being part of the solution.

Monthly Memory Verse: "Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification." ... Romans 14:19 (NIV)

CG: Dude Perfect Filler Videos

Pre-Service Activity: Connect Four

Supplies Needed: Connect Four Game (1 per Campus)

How to Play:

Split into 2 Teams and Alternate Turns to try to be the first team to get 4 tokens in a row on the game board (Up, Down, Right, Left or Diagonal). Play as few rounds as time as interest allows.

"Attention all you amazing 5th Graders! This announcement is for you. Coming up next month is an awesome opportunity for you to get a chance to check out JHM. It's called Level Up! Take a look at this video!"

CG: Level Up! Promo Video

"Hey, everyone! Glad to see you here today. We've had such a great month together! We've already learned so much about peace, but let's dive into one more lesson this month."

"Think about this for a moment. Most of us have had difficult moments in our relationships when we're in a disagreement with a friend or family member. When that has happened, have you ever had another friend or family member step in the middle and help you and the other person make things right? In other words, had someone who acted like a bridge? Yeah? Who was that person? (Pause for responses.)"

"Yes, exactly. Other friends, a parent, or sibling stepped into our mess and helped us reconnect with the other person we argued with."

NOTE: This would be a good moment to share an age-appropriate, personal story of when this happened to you.

Ideas: a moment when a parent helped bridge an argument between you and your sibling or a time when a friend helped you repair a disagreement with another friend, or a coach who helped you get along with another player on your sports team.

"Even if you haven't yet, we will all face a moment in our lives when we're at odds with someone we know, maybe even someone we care about. Maybe we'll even see people we know fighting

with each other, and we'll wonder how to respond. Do we step in and try to help? Do we get another adult to help us? Do we allow the relationship to end? When it comes to an argument, sometimes there are more questions than answers. That's just one of the reasons why I'm so thankful we have the Bible. I'm so thankful that people wrote down their experiences when God helped them through difficult times. Let's look at a moment like this recorded for us in the Old Testament of our Bible."

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 15:00)

"It's interesting to think about what might have happened in this story if Abigail hadn't intervened. I mean, David was pretty upset about the way he and his men were treated, and he was prepared to make it right. And we know Nabal wasn't changing his mind! I think it is pretty safe to say this was NOT going to end well. But Abigail did something really difficult. She came between two parties who were divided and found a way to make peace. She became the bridge that brought together two people who were separated. This is no small thing."

"Have you ever caught on to some tension flaring up between a couple of your friends? In that moment, you have all sorts of choices to make. You can say things to splash gasoline on what is sparking like, 'Oh yeah, they ALWAYS act like that!' or 'But did you hear when they said THIS?' Soon enough, those sparks are a full-blown fire. Or instead, you could be the water that helps to extinguish the sparks, like 'Are you sure that's what they said?' or 'What if we talk about it together?'"

"But maybe it has nothing to do with your friends, like this story. Maybe you have someone in your own life that's genuinely not a nice person to you or to your friends or your siblings. We may need to start thinking about the safe ways that you can help to build a bridge and bring peace. Just like our Bible Verse for this month reminds us..."

Monthly Memory Verse: Let us therefore make **every effort** to do what leads to peace and to **mutual edification**. *Romans 14:19 (NIV)*

EVERY EFFORT: Do what it takes even when it seems impossible.

MUTUAL EDIFICATION: Being together in building each other up.

"Today as you go to groups, think about this question:"

SLIDE: Key Question Slide

What are ways you can be a peacemaker? In other words, think about some of the relationships that are in your life right now that may be a bit divided. They need a bridge to get from one side to the other. Maybe God is nudging you to become that bridge for them. God might also help you figure out which adult could help become a bridge for them. There are all sorts of ways to become a peacemaker. You'll chat about that and more when you get to Small Group. Before you head out, let's pray and thank God for being the ultimate peacemaker for us. Let's ask God to help us see the moments where we can step in and help make peace. Let's pray."

Lead group in a prayer related to what they just heard. After prayer, dismiss kids to give their offering then head to Small Group.