

ALLEY SG – March 2-3, 2024

Today's Bible Story: Whenever, Wherever (Live in Peace with Everyone) • *Romans 12:18*

Today's Key Question: Why is it important to make peace?

Today's Bottom Line: Make peace whenever you can.

Monthly Memory Verse: *If possible, live in peace with everyone. Do that as much as you can.* Romans 12:18 (NirV)

1. Bible Story Extension

Bible Story Review

What You Need: "Circuit Story" Activity Pages (1 set per group per service) "Circuit Story Leader Guide" (1 per group), yellow marker

What You Do:

- Spread out the "Circuit Story" Activity Pages around the floor of your group space (not in sequential order).
- Explain the kids will work together to put the pieces in story order and that the lightbulb is the final piece.
- Ask for a volunteer to start the circuit.
- Instruct them to look at all the pieces on the floor and choose which piece explains what happened first.
- Ask for another volunteer to continue the circuit by choosing the second page and place it directly to the right of the first piece.
- Continue until all eight circuit pieces have been placed. (See the "Circuit Story Leader Guide" Activity Page for the answer key.)
- Invite any kids in the group to indicate if they think any pages have been placed incorrectly.
- Choose a volunteer to set down the final piece at the end of the circuit, which displays a lightbulb and this week's Bottom Line.
- Remind the kids that when Paul wrote this letter to the Romans encouraging them to live in peace, he understood that this was difficult to do. But he also knew how powerful it was to live in peace, rather than tension and conflict.
- Choose one more or more volunteers to use the yellow marker to trace the circuit path to the final page. Have one volunteer color in the lightbulb on the last piece of the circuit.
- Explain that peace is like the light bulb. It takes all the pieces of the circuit to work together to power it on.
- Ask:
 - Have you experienced any situations recently where you had to make peace? If so, would you like to share them with the group?
 - What are some ways you can you stop and make peace when you're in the middle of a conflict?

2. Take a Snapshot

Application Activity

What You Need: “Prayer Switch” Activity Page (one per kid on white cardstock), washi tape and regular markers

What You Do:

- Hand each kid a “Prayer Switch” Activity Page.
- Set out the markers and washi tape.
- Encourage the kids to write: “Switch on the power of peace” somewhere on their light switch, then to color and decorate it with the washi tape.
- While they are decorating, ask:
 - “What are some things that can stand in the way of having peace?” (These could be personal or hypothetical examples, like the school bus (because kids often get into arguments there), or the baseball field, (because kids often get really fired up when they play).
 - Ask: “What are some ways you can make peace in those situations?”
 - Is anyone experiencing a situation in your life where you need peace?
- Invite the kids to hang their papers on the wall next to a light switch to remember the power of making peace.

3. Discussion Questions

- Do you feel stressed when you’re in conflict with someone?
- Who are some people who are hard for you to have peace with?
- Is it challenging to make peace with someone else?
- Why is it important to make peace?
- Does making peace always mean you have to give up what you want?

4. Verses to Take with You

Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Bibles, Verse cards (set of 16 cards per group)

What You Do:

- Make sure each kid has a Bible. Together, look up Romans 12:18
- Read Romans 12:18 out loud several times together.
- Direct the kids to leave their Bibles open for reference.
- Place the 16 verse cards face down, in a 4 x 4 grid.
- Lead the kids in a game of Romans 12:18 Memory.
- Choose a kid to take the first turn.
- Direct them to look for the first two words of Romans 12:18.
- Allow them to refer to their Bibles as needed.
- Instruct the first kid to choose two cards to turn over.
- If they happen to get both of the first two words, instruct them to keep them as a match.

- If the kid does not get both of the first two words, direct them to return the cards to their spots in the grid.
- Continue play with the next kid's turn.
- Repeat this process, allowing kids to take turns finding the first two words.
- Once the first two words of the verse have been found, instruct the kids to find the next two words of the verse.
- Play until all words have been found in verse order.
 - The last two words of the verse will be "Romans" and "12:18."
- The kid who finds the most matches is the winner!
- Instruct the kids to say the verse out loud together.
- Ask: "How can God's Holy Spirit help you make peace?"

5. Pray

- "God, thank You for sending Jesus so we can have peace with You. Thank You for giving us Your Holy Spirit, who helps us make peace with others. This week, help us to stop and think about ways we can make peace with others instead of reacting quickly when we don't feel peaceful. We love You and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

PARENT PICK UP POINT: As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to share their light switch papers. Invite kids to ask their family how they can choose to make peace in their lives.