



## WEEK THREE – JUNE 2019 – KINDER/FIRST

**Bible Story:** *Peaceful Easy Feeling* • Matthew 6:25–27

**Bottom Line:** *You can have peace because God is in control.*

**Memory Verse:** *“The fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself.” Galatians 5:22–23a, NIV*

**Life App:** *What God is doing in you to change the world around you*

**Basic Truth:** *I can trust God no matter what.*

**Summary:** Next we head to a moment from the Sermon on the Mount recorded for us in Matthew 6:26. Jesus reminded His followers not to worry. After all, if God cares for the birds of the air and the flowers of the field, God will definitely care for each one of us and what we need.

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## EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITIES

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### 1. Early Arriver Idea

*Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding*

**What You Need:** supplies for “Birds of Peace”

**What You Do:**

- Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up.
- Invite kids to place their offerings in the *For Everyone* box on the wall near the main entrance
- Encourage kids to help prep for “Birds of Peace” by cutting out the bird templates and/or cutting tissue paper into one-inch(ish) pieces.
  - If you feel that your few can handle it, let them bend the paperclips for the bird feet.
- As kids work, ask:
  - If you could be a bird, what kind of bird would you be? Why?
  - Where would be your favorite place to fly to?

### 2. Whooooo Is It?

*Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body*

**What You Need:** Hula Hoops

**What You Do:**

- Set out the hula-hoops, spacing them an arm’s length apart.
- Direct each child to stand inside a hoop. If you don’t have hoops or carpet squares, direct kids to stand in a circle so they’re an arm’s length apart.
- Guide kids to pantomime different birds: an owl, a parakeet, an eagle, a penguin, a hummingbird, an ostrich, a dove, etc.
- End by leading kids to pretend to be a bird settling into its nest for the night.

**What You Say:**

***“God made so many different kinds of birds! [Transition] In Large Group we’ll hear about a time when Jesus told a story about birds. Let’s go learn more.”***

***Lead your group to the Large Group area.***

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## LARGE GROUP

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### OVERVIEW:

**Bottom Line:** *You can have peace because God is in control. Sometimes we might wonder what kids have to worry about. However, any disruption in schedule or expectations or argument with a friend, can cause kids to feel like life is out of control. We hope that as kids learn how much God cares for them, they'll discover how they can find peace.*

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## SMALL GROUP

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### 1. Birds of Peace

#### [Bible Story Review]

*Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing*

**What You Need:** “Bird Template” (Activity Page), tissue paper scraps, craft feathers, scissors, tape, markers, glue sticks, paper clips

#### What You Do:

- Show kids a “Bird Template” and encourage them to recall as much as they can from the Bible story. Be sure to touch on the following key points:
  - You don’t have to worry. God takes care of the birds and flowers, and He’ll take care of you, too.
  - Peace is a fruit of the Spirit because it comes when you trust God.
  - Things may not always turn out the way you expect or want, but no matter what happens, God is in control.
- Give each kid a “Bird Template” set and invite them to add tissue paper scraps, feathers, and other items as they choose.
- Lead kids to glue the wings to the bodies.
- Show kids how to tape the straight end of the two prepared paper clips to the back of one body piece to create legs.
- Guide kids to glue the two halves of their birds together.
- Adjust the legs as necessary so the birds can stand.
- As kids work, use the conversation below as a guide to help bring home the truth of Jesus’ message.

#### What You Say:

*“Birds don’t plant seeds or gather crops. They don’t put away food on shelves. They don’t make any plans. And they don’t know what’s going to happen or how they’re going to eat. But God takes care of them. And Jesus says we’re worth much more than they are!”*

*“Did you know that you’re worth so much to God that He knows the number of hairs on your head? Did you know that you’re so valuable to God that He sent Jesus to be your Savior? So no matter what happens, remember: **[Bottom Line] You can have peace because God is in control**, and He loves you more than you can imagine. And if God loves you that much, He’ll certainly take care of you, too.”*

## 2. Peace

### [Memory Verse Activity]

*Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play*

**What You Need:** Bibles; stuffed bird or artificial flower

### What You Do:

- Guide kids to look up the memory verse (Galatians 5:22–23a) using the navigation tips from Week One.
- Unpack idea that peace comes when you trust God and know that He’s in control.
- Lead kids to sit in a circle.
- Give one child the stuffed bird or artificial flower.
- At your signal, kids pass the bird or flower clockwise, each child saying one word of the verse.
- For variety, call, “Reverse,” at various times, prompting kids to immediately reverse the direction of play.

### What You Say:

*“Peace is a fruit of the Spirit because it comes when you trust God and know that He’s in control. So when you find yourself worrying, talk to God about it. He loves you and wants to hear from you. Then remind yourself that God is someone who knows EVERYTHING and can do ANYTHING. Things may not always turn out the way you expect, but you can always know this: God is in control. That’s the one thing to remember today: **[Bottom Line] You can have peace because God is in control.**”*

## 3. Pray and Dismiss

### [Prayer Activity]

*Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application*

**What You Need:** Kids’ “Birds of Peace” from earlier activity

### What You Do:

- Guide kids to hold their birds as you use the conversation below to lead kids into silent prayer, asking God to help them trust Him and not worry.

**What You Say:**

*“What’s something that you worry about? Do you worry about making friends? (Pause.) Do you worry about whether or not one of your parents will find a job? (Pause.) Do you worry about what you’ll wear or what you’ll eat? (Pause.)*

*“We all worry sometimes. I worry about . . . **[Make It Personal]** (share something you’re tempted to worry about). But the Bible says we don’t have to worry. God takes care of the birds, and He takes care of the flowers. And Jesus said that we’re worth MUCH more than they are, so He’ll take care of us, too!” (Guide kids to look at their birds and think of something they might worry about. Lead them to pray silently, asking God to help them not worry.)*

***As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to place their birds someplace they’ll see them often. The birds can help them remember that [Bottom Line] you can have peace because God is in control.***