

WEEK  
**ONE**  
MARCH 2024

LARGE GROUP  
**K-3**

## TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

**Whenever, Wherever**  
Live in Peace with Everyone  
Romans 12:18

### 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, NIV

### MONTHLY VIRTUE

**Peace—Proving you care  
more about each other than  
winning an argument**

### BASIC TRUTH

**I should treat others the way  
I want to be treated.**

### PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

## Scripture

Romans 12:18

## BIBLE STORY

### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Storyteller
- Bible
- Table
- Prop box containing:
  - Video game controller
  - Box of donuts (can be empty)
  - Dinner plate and fake/toy broccoli

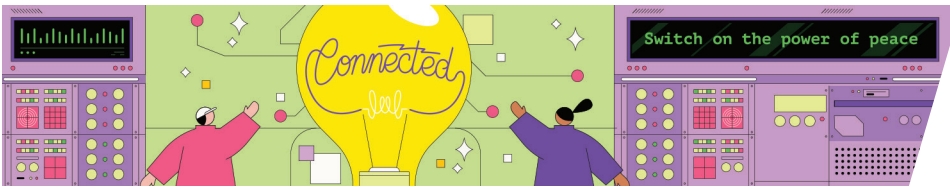
### LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

- Theme Background Slide
- Bottom Line Slide
- Memory Verse Slide
- Virtue Slide
- Story Images

## Host

### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Host
- Small Group Leaders
- Table
- Blindfolds (sleep-mask style; one per Small Group Leader)
- Shoeboxes with lids (one per Small Group Leader), containing:
  - An empty flashlight
  - The correct batteries to make the flashlight work
- Extra flashlight for the host



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

## TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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## MONTHLY VIRTUE

Peace—Proving you care  
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## BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way  
I want to be treated.

## LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE KIDS' HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE BIBLE STORY, WORSHIP, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

**AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS KIDS ENTER.**

**SLIDE: THEME**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP**

Host enters.

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME**

## OPENER

**HOST:** "Hi, everybody! It's so great to see all of you here today. My name is [your name] . . . and this month, we're finding out why it's important to live in peace.

**SLIDE: VIRTUE**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME TRANSITION TO VIRTUE**

"Peace is **proving you care more about each other than winning an argument.**

**SLIDE: THEME**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): VIRTUE TRANSITION TO THEME**

"Peace is pretty powerful! Peace helps us stay connected. And with God's help, we can switch on the power of peace.

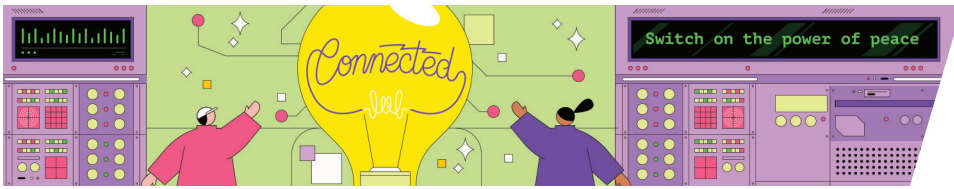
"You know what? I've got a fun game for us to play that will help us practice switching on the power—with some flashlights.

*Hold up a flashlight.*

"Let me have our Small Group Leaders come join me up on stage.

*Bring up the Small Group Leaders. Give them each a blindfold and a shoebox containing an empty flashlight and the right number of batteries to make it work.*

*Note: Depending on how many small groups you have, you could either have all leaders play, or divide the room into two or three sections and choose a leader to represent each section.*



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(To leaders) "Leaders, you may go ahead and put on your blindfolds."

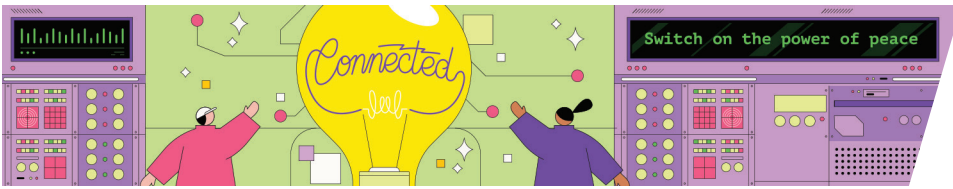
(To audience) "When I say 'go,' your blindfolded leaders will open the box in front of them and try to get their flashlight to work. That means they'll have to find the batteries in their box . . . put those batteries in the flashlight the right way . . . THEN switch on the flashlight—all without being able to see what they're doing."

"You can cheer for your leader, and when they get their light to turn on, you'll let them know by shouting, 'Light's on,' and their name. So for example, you'd say, 'Light's on, [name].' Make sense? We'll keep going until all the lights are shining! Let's get started. Three, two, one, go!"

**AUDIO: FUN INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC**

*Comment on the action. Celebrate big as each leader gets their flashlight to work. Keep going until all of them have been successful. Then dismiss them to their seats.*

"Wow! That was amazing! Let's give our leaders a hand. And let's all get up on our feet so we can sing, dance, and worship God together."



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## WORSHIP

*Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.*

**WORSHIP LEADER:** “Hi, everyone! It’s always such a party here at [name of your environment]. I’m excited for this time we have right now to give all our praise to God. Don’t hold anything back today, friends. Let’s sing ‘I’ll give my all to You.’ Here we go!

**AUDIO:** “ALL TO YOU” / TRACK 1 FROM MY LIFE FOR YOU

**OPTIONAL VIDEO:** “ALL TO YOU” LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO

“Yes—we’ll give all our praise to God! So good. Before we continue in worship, watch this.

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE):** LIVE LOUD VIDEO FROM GET REEL

“We have a new song to teach you today. It’s called ‘Jesus Is Peace.’ Jesus gives us peace, even when life doesn’t make sense. He is always with us. Jesus once said this to His closest friends, the disciples: *‘I leave my peace with you. I give my peace to you. I do not give it to you as the world does. Do not let your hearts be troubled. And do not be afraid.’* (John 14:27, NIV) Sing along once you catch on.”

**AUDIO:** “JESUS IS PEACE” / TRACK 8 FROM MY LIFE FOR YOU

**OPTIONAL VIDEO:** “JESUS IS PEACE” LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO



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## BIBLE STORY

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

*Storyteller enters as Worship Leaders exit.*

### SETTING UP THE STORY

**STORYTELLER:** "Hello, everyone! Today we're looking at something the apostle Paul wrote to the followers of Jesus who lived in Rome. We can find this letter that Paul wrote in the book of Romans in the Bible. *(Hold up Bible.)*

"When Paul was younger, he tried to stop people from following Jesus. He even had Jesus-followers arrested and put in prison. But then Jesus spoke to Paul on the road one day, and everything changed!

"From that point on, Paul traveled all over, teaching people about Jesus and starting new churches everywhere he went. Paul wrote the letter we know as Romans to the believers who lived in Rome. Paul wanted to encourage the Romans in their faith and tell them that he hoped to visit them soon.

### LIVE IN PEACE

SLIDE: STORY IMAGE 1 (PAUL WRITING)

**STORYTELLER:** "In Paul's letter to the Jesus-followers in Rome, he explained what it looks like to truly follow Jesus. The church in Rome included people who were born and raised with Jewish faith, as well as some who weren't. So, Paul knew that these different people might have some trouble getting along with each other.

"Listen to what Paul wrote in Romans 12:18.

SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE (ROMANS 12:18)

*Open the Bible to Romans 12:18 (NirV) and read.*

*If possible, live in peace with everyone. Do that as much as you can. (NirV)*

"Let me read that again.

*If possible, live in peace with everyone. Do that as much as you can. (NirV)*

### WHAT IS PEACE?

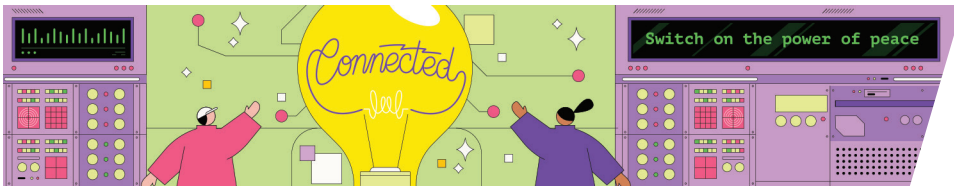
**STORYTELLER:** "So what does that actually mean? What does it really look like to live in peace?"

"Remember, here's how we're talking about peace here at [name of your environment].

SLIDE: VIRTUE

"It's **proving you care more about each other than winning an argument.**

"Peace is about more than just not fighting, or not arguing with someone. It's more than just feeling calm and peaceful. Peace is something you have to CHOOSE. It's a way of treating people.



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“REAL peace means choosing to listen to the person or people who don’t agree with you. It means showing that you care about someone by respecting them and valuing what they have to say. And what did Paul say?

**SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE (ROMANS 12:18)**

“We should live in peace with who? *(Pause for response.)* EVERYONE. Paul said that we should live in peace with everyone **as much as we can**. I think he wrote that last part because he knew that you can’t control what other people do. But you CAN control what YOU do.

**SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND**

## HOW TO CHOOSE PEACE

**STORYTELLER:** “So what does it look like for us to live in peace like Paul said?”

“Well, when someone says or does something that makes you angry, your first instinct is probably to say something mean right back. We can end up doing that if we just speak or act without thinking. But, that just makes things worse, doesn’t it?”

“When we choose to control our words and actions, we show that we have the true power of peace. Because when we choose not to fight, the other person has nothing to fight back against.

“And here’s the really good news. We don’t have to do that on our own! God can help us choose peace. When we put our faith in Jesus, God’s Holy Spirit comes to live inside of us. Peace is something that God’s Spirit creates in us, and it’s something that we can share with other people too.

*Pull the video game controller out of the prop box and hold it up.*

“Let’s say you’re playing video games with a friend, and the game glitches. Your friend wants his turn to start over, but you feel like he’s had his turn already and now it’s YOUR turn. What do you do?”

**SLIDE: STORY IMAGE 2A**

“Do you A) grab the controller so you can take a turn?”

**SLIDE: STORY IMAGE 2B**

“Or do you B) let your friend play again and cheer him on?”

“What do you think—A or B? *(Pause for response.)* Definitely B. You can choose peace by being generous with your friend and treating him the way YOU would want to be treated.

**SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND**

“How about this one?”

*Pull the donut box out of the prop box and hold it up.*



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“Let’s say your mom or dad brings home donuts as a fun treat for your family . . . but there’s only ONE chocolate donut in the box. Of course, chocolate is your favorite flavor AND your sister’s favorite flavor too! What do you do?”

**SLIDE: STORY IMAGE 3A**

“Do you A) grab the donut and eat it before she even sees it?”

**SLIDE: STORY IMAGE 3B**

“Maybe it would be better to choose B)—save the chocolate one for her, and pick a different donut for yourself. The pink sprinkles one looks pretty good!”

**SLIDE: STORY IMAGE 3C**

“What about this? What if you picked option C) and you asked your sister if she wanted half of the chocolate donut? You could split it in half and share it with her. That way, you could keep the peace, and you’d still get to have some of your favorite donut too.”

“I think either B or C would be a great way to live in peace with your sister!”

**SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND**

“Let’s look at one more example.”

*Pull the fake/toy broccoli and dinner plate out of the prop box. Put the broccoli on the plate and hold it up.*

“You show up at the dinner table, only to discover that you’re having broccoli for dinner. Broccoli is . . . NOT your favorite . . . but your grandma says you need to eat it because it’s good for you. What do you do?”

**SLIDE: STORY IMAGE 4A**

“Do you . . . A) frown and complain? I don’t think so. What else could you do?”

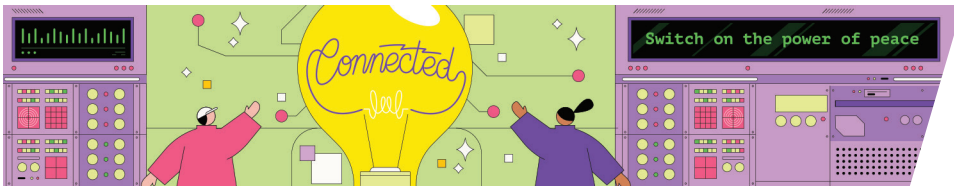
**SLIDE: STORY IMAGE 4B**

“That looks better. I like this B option! You could stop and be thankful because your grandma makes healthy meals for you to eat. You could ask someone a question about their day, pop the broccoli in your mouth, and listen. Before you know it, the broccoli’s gone, and you’ve kept the peace with your family!”

**SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND**

## WRAPPING UP THE STORY

**STORYTELLER:** “I bet you could figure out a peaceful way to act in each of those situations . . . and I bet you can figure out how to make peace in other situations too. It isn’t always easy to live in peace. But it’s like Paul wrote to the Romans:



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**SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE (ROMANS 12:18)**

*Open the Bible to Romans 12:18 (NirV) and read.*

*If possible, live in peace with everyone. Do that as much as you can. (NirV)*

“If you’re having a problem with someone, try to make peace. Go to the person, ask what’s wrong, and then really listen. And, if you’re having a problem with someone and you don’t know how to make it better, tell an adult you trust.

“Not everyone will listen when you try to make peace. Some people will stay mad. But you can still have peace inside when you know you’ve done everything you can. And you know that God will always be there to help you.

“Here’s what we need to remember:

**SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE**

**“Make peace whenever you can.**

“Let’s pray and ask God to help us do that.”

**SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND**

## PRAY

**STORYTELLER:** “Dear God, thank You so much for reminding us that we should live in peace with others, whenever we can. Please give us the wisdom to know how to live in peace with the people You’ve put in our lives. Give us the wisdom and the courage to make peace instead of getting angry or frustrated. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”





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## CLOSER

*Host enters as Storyteller exits.*

**HOST:** "It's so important for us to live in peace with other people! Anytime we run into a difficult situation or things don't go our way, it's easy to just get upset and say the first thing that pops into our head. But that doesn't usually work out very well, does it? It's always better to pause and think about how to make peace.

**SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE**

**"Make peace whenever you can.**

"That's what Paul wrote about in his letter to the Romans, which is where we find our Memory Verse, Romans 12:18. Let's say it together.

**SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE (ROMANS 12:18)**

*Open the Bible to Romans 12:18 (NirV) and read.*

**KIDS AND HOST:** *If possible, live in peace with everyone. Do that as much as you can. (NirV)*

**HOST:** "That's right! And we know that God can help us do that. When we decide to follow Jesus, we can have TRUE peace with God—the kind of peace that nothing can take away. God gives us the gift of the Holy Spirit to live inside us and help us make peace with the people around us. With God's help, we can make peace and **[Basic Truth] treat others the way we want to be treated.**

*Share an age-appropriate, personal story about a time when you were tempted to react poorly, but God helped you make peace instead.*

"Let's decide that we're going to be people who make peace. Before we react, let's pause and think before we speak. Let's listen to what the other person has to say. And remember, if you're ever in a situation where you're not sure HOW to make peace, you can always ask an adult to help you too.

"Now let's head to Small Group and talk about how we can make peace whenever and wherever we go!"

*Dismiss kids to their small groups.*

**AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS THE KIDS EXIT.**

**SLIDE: THEME**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP**