

LESSON OVERVIEW

Big Idea: Peace means you make friends, not enemies.

Key Question: How did Jesus make peace between us and God?

Memory Verse: "For Christ himself has brought peace to us." **Ephesians 2:14a**

Overview: We're continuing in our series called "Get Rich". We're not talking about getting rich with money. We're talking about being rich in God's love. We've been looking at the book of Ephesians and some important lessons Paul teaches about the benefits of having a relationship with God. We've already learned that when we put our trust in Jesus, we are adopted into God's family. We've also learned that we should get to know God more to realize how great he is. And, we learned about the best gift we could ever receive—God's grace which means he's kind and forgiving. And, grace is a gift, so it's not something we can brag about. All we can do is accept the gift by putting our trust in Jesus. Today, we're going to talk about the riches that come from God's peace. Peace means we make friends, not enemies. Did you know that's what Jesus came to do for us? He came to make peace between us and God by dying on the cross to pay for our sins. Because of Jesus, we can be friends with God. And, God wants us to make peace with other people in our lives. He wants us to be a good friend to others like he has been to us.

CLASSROOM AGENDA

5 min **PLAY:** Begin working on Activity Page #1.

5 min **WARM UP:** Have you ever gotten in an argument with a friend or sibling? What did you fight about? Did you make up eventually?

5 min **PREVIEW:** Write out the Big Idea and Memory Verse and Key Question on a whiteboard. Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1. (if applicable)

20 min **LARGE GROUP:** Gather for songs and videos with other kids. Then return to small group to finish this guide.

5 min **RECAP:** Read the **Lesson Overview** from the Teacher's Guide to the class and then **answer** the KEY QUESTION.

5 min **EXPLORE:** Read [Colossians 1:21-22](#). According to this passage, what separates us from God? Why can we stand before God pure and blameless?

10 min **PLAY:** Do the group activity from Activity Page #2.

5 min **CLOSE:**

- Share prayer requests and pray as a class.
- Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents.

TEACHER TIPS

Don't forget that you set the tone for your kids. Smile. Have fun. Pursue God together.

It's hard to get along with people sometimes. But, God wants us to make peace with people and to be a good friend.

Answer: He died on the cross to pay for our sins so we could be friends with God.

Sin is going our own way instead of God's way. The Bible says that sin breaks our relationship with God. So, Jesus came to fix the problem by paying for our sins by dying on the cross. When we trust in Jesus, that sin problem is removed and we can be in relationship with God again.

Bonus Questions: What is sin? What did Jesus do to make peace between us and God?

4-5th: Why does sin get in the way of being at peace with God? (Sin represents all the yucky stuff in this world that makes us selfish, mean and dishonoring. God wants nothing to do with that stuff.)

Our sinful thoughts and actions separate us from God. But when we put our trust in Jesus, all of our sins—past, present, and future are forgiven. That means, when God looks at us, he doesn't see our sinful ways anymore but the goodness and righteousness of Jesus in us.

Make sure kids bring their Family guide home or tell them to go online to pursueGOD.org/kids to find this week's lesson.

ACTIVITY PAGE #2

Classroom Activities **2nd-5th**

Option #1

Make Peace Pipe Cleaner Game

- Divide the class into teams of 3 or 4.
- Give each team a piece of tin foil.
- Give each team 10 pipe cleaners.
- Tell the teams to be creative and work together to create something out of the foil and pipe cleaners. It can be like a sculpture or an animal. The point is to work together with friends to create something unique.
- If you have time, have teams present their creation to the rest of the class.

Supplies needed

- Tin foil
- Pipe cleaners (enough for each team to have 10)

Bonus Activity:

Play **True or False**.

See who's the quickest to answer correctly.

1. God made peace with us through Jesus. (T)
2. Peace means you have enemies. (F)
3. James wrote Ephesians. (F)

Option #2

Make Peace Door Hanger

- Give each kid a door hanger template (**page 5**).
- Have kids cut out each piece.
- As a class, come up with some things they can do to make peace with friends and write them on the board. (Ex. share your stuff, invite a friend to play, say something nice). **Try to keep the statements concise because the kids will copy them down on their paper strips.
- Have kids copy 3 things from the board onto their paper strips, 1 idea per strip.
- Have kids color the cloud and each strip and then glue the end of the strips to the bottom of the cloud.
- Give each kid a piece of string and have them tape both ends to the back of the cloud so they can hang it on the door.

Supplies needed

- Door hanger template (pg 5), 1 set per kid
- String cut into 12 in pieces, 1 per kid
- Scissors
- Markers/Pens
- Crayons
- Glue
- Tape

Bonus Activity:

Play **Fast Facts**.

See who's the quickest to answer correctly.

1. How did God make peace with us? (Jesus)
2. What does peace mean? (make friends, not enemies)
3. ____wrote Ephesians. (Paul)

Making Friends | Get Rich #4 (Kids)

 www.pursuegod.org/making-friends-get-rich-4-kids/

Hey kids! Today we're on Week 4 of our Get Rich series from the book of Ephesians. So far we've learned some important ways we can be rich in God's love. When we trust in Jesus, we are adopted into God's family. There are a lot of cool perks to being one of God's kids. We also have learned that getting to know God more makes us love him more and that we can't brag about anything God gives us. God is the best gift giver because he loves us, not because we've somehow earned it. Today we're going to talk about how to be rich in "Peace".

Peace means you make _____, not _____

Which one is better: war or peace? That's an easy one! Peace.

_____ came to make _____ between us and God

And because he did, we can have a good relationship with God. Anyone who invites Jesus into his or her heart can be best friends with God. Everything changes in our "upward" relationship, thanks to Jesus!

We should make peace with _____

Remember: even when we didn't deserve it, Jesus came to us to make friends. Can you think of someone at home or school that you need to make friends with? Will you be brave enough to do it this week?

Answers: friends, enemies, Jesus, peace, others

Questions:

1. *What was your favorite part of the video? What is one thing you learned from the video?*
2. *Have you ever gotten in an argument with a friend or sibling? What did you fight about? Did you make up eventually?*
3. *Why is it better to make friends, not enemies?*
4. *What did Jesus do to make peace between us and God?*
5. *What can you do to be a better friend to your friends and siblings?*
6. *Read [Colossians 1:21-22](#). According to this passage, what separates us from God? Why can we stand before God pure and blameless?*
7. *How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?*

Bonus Questions: Use these passages to have more conversations this week.

1. *Read [Matthew 5:9](#). How can you be a peacemaker among your friends and at home?*
2. *Read [Romans 5:1](#). What did Jesus do for you? What do you have to do to accept his gift?*
3. *Read [Matthew 7:12](#). This verse is the Golden Rule. How do you want your friends to treat you? How should you treat your friends?*

ACTIVITY PAGE #1

2nd-5th Grade



PUZZLE #1

Peace Boggler Puzzle

How many words of 3 letters or more can you find in the puzzle below? Letters must be touching and you can't use a letter more than once in one word.

P	C	E	V
E	A	C	O
T	R	U	D
H	O	P	E



BIG IDEA →

KEY QUESTION →

MEMORY VERSE →

For _____ himself has brought _____ to us."

Ephesians 2:_____a

PUZZLE #2

Jesus Puzzle

Find the name of Jesus throughout this puzzle.

J	E	S	U	S	A	J	E	S	U	S	B	J	E	S	U	S	J
C	J	E	S	U	S	D	E	F	J	E	S	U	S	G	H	I	E
J	E	S	U	S	J	E	S	U	S	J	K	L	J	E	S	U	S
J	E	S	U	S	M	N	B	O	P	Q	J	E	S	U	S	R	U
E	S	J	E	S	U	S	I	T	U	J	E	S	U	S	Z	A	S
S	B	C	D	E	J	E	S	U	S	F	S	J	E	S	U	S	J
U	G	H	I	J	I	K	J	E	S	U	S	J	E	S	U	S	E
S	O	P	J	E	S	U	S	Q	R	S	S	J	E	S	U	S	S
U	V	J	E	S	U	S	J	E	S	U	S	J	E	S	U	S	U
W	J	E	S	U	S	X	Y	Z	J	E	S	U	S	A	B	C	S
J	E	S	U	S	D	E	F	G	J	E	S	U	S	H	I	J	K

