



WEEK
ONE
APRIL 2021

SMALL GROUP

K-1

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment



Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Praise God for always having a plan to make things right when we could never do that on our own. Thank Him for sacrificing His own Son to be our Savior and the bridge we needed to connect us back to Him. Thank God for making peace with us so we could have a relationship with Him now and forever.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Alive
Easter
Colossians 1:20 and
John 20:1-18

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

God made peace with us.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

So let us do all we can to live in peace. And let us work hard to build up one another.
Romans 14:19, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

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

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

1. EARLY ARRIVER

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container, hand sanitizer

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite kids to place their offerings in the container.
- Guide them to apply hand sanitizer.
- Ask: How could you cross a road? (walk, ride a bike, etc.) An ocean? Outer space?
 - If kids are stuck for ideas, ask guiding questions such as: Could you cross a road on a bike? Could you cross a road by skipping?
 - Add fun by providing silly alternatives such as: Could you cross a road by riding a fish? By riding an ant? Could you cross an ocean by riding a shark? By driving a car? Could you cross outer space by riding a bike? By riding a cow?
- Guide kids to pantomime each suggestion.
- You can even make it a game of "Follow the Leader" by leading kids to follow you as you move around your environment.



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MADE TO MOVE

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



2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: Fun foam, vinyl discs, or similar items

WHAT YOU DO:

- Lead kids in a variation of "The Floor Is Lava!"
- Set the "stepping stones" in a path on the floor, spaced two to three feet apart.
- Guide kids to line up at one end of your path.
- Model how to navigate the course, stepping **ONLY** on the "stones" not on the floor because it's "lava!"
- Direct kids to take turns navigating the path.
- If time allows, change the positions of the "stones" and let kids take on a new challenge.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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Easter

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John 20:1-18

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

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MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"You guys did a great job avoiding the lava and getting to the other side!

[Transition] In Large Group, we'll hear how God came to US so that WE can go to HIM! Let's go learn more."

Lead your group to the Large Group area.



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25 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group



1. GOD MADE PEACE WITH US

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Bible Verse Strips" Activity Page, Bibles, prepared plastic eggs, upbeat worship music, small bags

WHAT YOU DO:

- Help kids look up and "read" the memory verse using the Bible navigation tips below.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Alive

Easter

Colossians 1:20 and
John 20:1-18

***Finding verses with kindergartners:** Guide kids to open the Bibles to the marked page. Point to the word "Romans" at the top of the page as you say, "Romans." Then guide kids to find the big number 14 (1 and 4) on the page. Explain that this is the chapter number. Finally, guide them to look under the big 14 for the little 19 (1 and 9); this is the verse number. Tell kids to leave their finger on the verse as you read the verse aloud. Then lead everyone to say the verse together.*

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

God made peace with us.

***Finding verses with 1st graders:** Guide kids to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show kids what the page looks like.) When kids find the table of contents, lead them to find Romans in the list under "New Testament." You can help by telling them that Romans starts with the letters R-O. When the kids find Romans, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Romans. Help kids find the page. When they find Romans, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 14. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 19 in chapter 14. Read the verse aloud together, guiding kids to point to each word as you read.*

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

So let us do all we can to live in peace. And let us work hard to build up one another.

Romans 14:19, NIV

- Unpack the truth that God did everything HE could to be at peace with us by sending HIS OWN SON to live on Earth, die on the cross, and come back to life so that we can live forever with Him—and live in peace!
- Help kids get into pairs. If you have a mix of ages, pair older kids with younger ones.
- Scatter the eggs around your environment.
- At your signal, guide each team to find ten eggs—numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10.
- Play the fun worship music while kids search.
- When every team finds all ten eggs, guide kids to open them, take out the memory verse strips, and put the strips in order.
- Read the verse aloud, guiding kids to point to each strip as you read it.
- Let kids divide the candy. They can eat it there during Small Group time or take it home in the bags.

MONTHLY LIFE APP

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

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"How did God make peace with us? (He sent Jesus.) Yes! **God made peace with us** when He sent His own Son, Jesus, to live on Earth, show us how to live,



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(1. GOD MADE PEACE WITH US, CONTINUED)

die on the cross, and come back to life. Because of Jesus, we can have peace with God and live forever with Him!

“And since **God made peace with us**, He wants us to make peace with others. Because when we do that, we show others that we love them and that God loves them, too. So remember that **God made peace with us**. And how did God make peace with us? (*He sent Jesus.*) Yes! He made peace with us through JESUS!”



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an activity that increases the oxygen
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in the body



*2. BRIDGE THE GAP

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Pool noodles, prepared art or butcher paper

WHAT YOU DO:

- Set the pool noodles on the floor, parallel and about a foot apart.
- Guide kids to line up along one side, spaced out from each other.
- Lead kids to take turns jumping over the noodles.
- Progressively add challenge by increasing the distance between the noodles.
- When it becomes difficult for the kids to successfully jump over both noodles, set them as far apart as your environment allows.
- Ask: Could you jump THIS far by yourself? You would need something—or someone—to help you, wouldn't you?
- Use the conversation below to "bring it home."

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Just like there's NO WAY that we can jump from here (*stand by the kids*) all the way to here (*run to the noodles at the far end of your environment*), there's NO WAY that we can have peace with God without Someone to help us. That Someone is JESUS! (*Roll out the paper, calling kids' attention to Jesus' name.*) **God made peace with us** by sending His Son, Jesus. Jesus is for EVERYONE. And when we choose to believe in Jesus and trust in Him, we can have peace with God. (*Lead kids to walk over the paper to you.*)

[Make It Personal] (Tell kids how you came to trust Jesus as your Savior.)

"So, remember that **God made peace with us** through Jesus. And when you believe in Jesus, you can have peace with God because you can know that your sins are forgiven. This week, take time to think about Jesus and how you can have peace with God. It's okay if you don't understand everything now. But if you'd like to talk with someone about what it means to believe in Jesus and follow Him, you can talk with me, another leader, your mom or dad, or another adult you know who follows Jesus."

Note: Depending on what you know about your kids, it might be a good idea to simply "plant the seeds" and have a conversation about salvation, without explicitly leading kids to take a step of faith. If a child's parents are already believers, they may want to be present for the moment their child accepts Jesus' gift of salvation. Use your judgment and your knowledge of your kids' home lives when having this conversation.

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Alive

Easter

Colossians 1:20 and
John 20:1-18

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

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MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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MONTHLY LIFE APP

**Peace—Proving you care
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MADE TO EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning
through hands-on experimentation
and discovery



3. EGG-CITING!

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Egg-citing" Activity Pages, white
crayon, watercolor paints, small bowls or cups of water,
brushes, and paper towels

WHAT YOU DO:

- If it hasn't already been done, print each kid's name with the crayon in the center of an "Egg-citing!" egg.
- Use pencil to label each page with the appropriate kid's name.
- Use a plain Activity Page to show kids how to dip a brush in the water, gently rub it on a cake of paint, then gently brush the paint on the paper.
- You can reinforce the process by saying "Water, paint, paper" each time you model the steps.
- Confirm kids' understanding by pointing to each item and prompting kids to say the steps.
- Give each kid their prepared "Egg-citing!" Activity Page.
- Set out the water and paint.
- Give each kid a brush.
- Invite kids to follow the steps and paint their eggs as they choose.
- Direct kids to FILL their eggs with color!
- Be prepared for a chorus of "Oooh!" and "Whoa!" as kids discover their names.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Whoa! That's so amazing! You found your name on your egg! You know, that makes me think—in an Easter egg hunt, WE search for eggs. But guess what? GOD searches for US! He searches for [kid's name] and [kid's name] and (repeat with each kid's name). Of course He knows where we are, but He searches for a relationship with us because He loves us and wants us to have peace with Him. He wants to be our friend—FOREVER! And that's why He sent Jesus, so that we can have peace with Him! Wow! So, remember that **God made peace with us.** He made peace with us through JESUS!"

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Alive

Easter

Colossians 1:20 and
John 20:1-18

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

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25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space
for personal processing
and application



4. PRAY AND DISMISS [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

- Use the conversation below as a guide to lead kids into prayer.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Alive
Easter
Colossians 1:20 and
John 20:1-18

WHAT YOU SAY:

"The important thing to remember today is **God made peace with us**. How did God make peace with us? (*He sent Jesus.*) Yes! God made peace with us when He sent His one and only Son, Jesus, to live on Earth, die on the cross, and come back to life (*make a "wow" face*) so that our sins can be forgiven! And when we ask Jesus to forgive us, He will! Jesus is the BEST PEACEMAKER EVER!

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

God made peace with us.

"It's okay if you don't understand everything now. If you have questions, you can talk to me, another leader, your mom or dad, or someone you know who follows Jesus. We'll be happy to help you. Let's pray.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

**So let us do all we can to live
in peace. And let us work hard
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Romans 14:19, NIV

"Dear God, thank You SO much for sending Your Son, Jesus. Thank You that Jesus is more powerful than sin and more powerful than death. Thank You that because of Jesus, we can have peace with You, just like You always wanted. We love You SO much, God. Thank You! Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to tell parents today's Bottom Line, **God made peace with us**. You can prompt kids by saying the first part then pausing for them to complete it.

MONTHLY LIFE APP

**Peace—Proving you care
more about each other than
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BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

So let us 1

do all 2

we can 3

to live 4

in peace. 5

And let us 6

work hard 7

to build up 8

one another. 9

Romans 14:19, NlrV 10

What to Do:

Print on colored paper and cut apart. Provide one set for every two kids.

"Bible Verse Strips, NlrV" Activity Page

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Let us

1

therefore

2

make every

3

effort to do

4

what leads

5

to peace

6

and to

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mutual

8

edification.

9

Romans 14:19, NIV

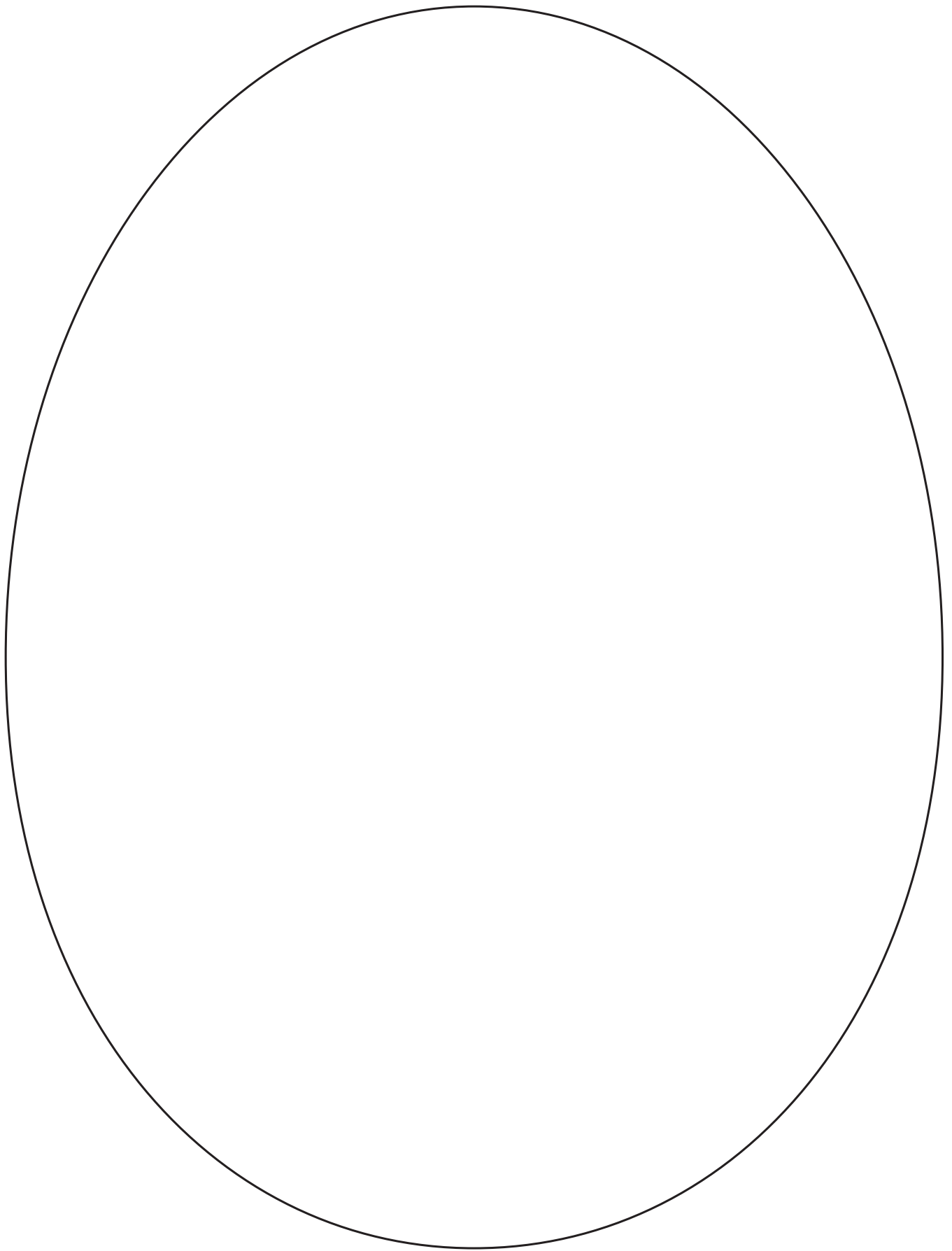
10

What to Do:

Print on colored paper and cut apart. Provide one set for every two kids.

"Bible Verse Strips, NIV" Activity Page

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What to Do:

Print one on cardstock for each kid.

"Egg-citing!" Activity Page

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