



WEEK 4

DEC.  
18

PEACE

*Jesus fixed our broken relationship with God and restored peace between us.*

## PEACE PLEASE

- Ask your family: “What do you think of when you hear the word “peace”?” Listen to their answers. Create a peaceful environment for your family such as sitting together looking at stars outside, turning off electronics, or being in a quiet room (in front of the fire place or lit Christmas tree). After everyone had a chance to soak up calm and quiet, give each child a spoon and a pot or metal bowl. Tell them to bang on their pots and scream loudly when you say, “Go,” and to stop when you say, “Stop.” Let the children have fun banging on the pots for a while. When you are done, gather the noisemakers, then sit and enjoy a few moments of peace and quiet again. Ask: What did you enjoy more—calm or clatter?” Explain that another name for Jesus is Prince of Peace. Read Isaiah 9:6.
- Ask: “What does it mean that Jesus is the Prince of Peace? If this is who He really is, how should it impact our lives? When do you have the most peace?”

## WAR AND PEACE

- Say: “Because of Jesus, we can have peace with God, peace with each other, and peace and quiet inside our hearts even when everything outside is going wrong. Peace is that calm and happy feeling you have when you know you are safe. Jesus is called the Prince of Peace, and He wants to give us His peace when we feel worried or afraid.”
- Have a few quick and fun battles. For example, Rock-Paper-Scissors, Thumb War, or even Pillow Fight. Explain that when you say, “The War Is Over,” all battles have to stop. Compare it to Jesus ending the war, and turning us, sinners and the enemies of God, into the friends of God.
- Ask: “Does our home feel like a peaceful place? What about school, church, or other places you go regularly? If not, how could you ask Jesus to bring peace into those places?” Pray together for Jesus to bring peace into the places that currently lack it.



# EXTRA IDEAS

## PEACE BY PIECE

Find a puzzle to put together with your family. Take turns adding the pieces, and helping each other figure out where they go.

Discuss how sin brought destruction, chaos and death into the world. Point out that Jesus came as a Prince of Peace, to end enmity between people and God, and to put broken relationships back together just like a puzzle.



## SKITTLES PRAYER

Open a bag of Skittles and pour them into a bowl.

Invite each family member to pick one or two candies.

Explain that one way we can bring God's peace into the world is by praying. Invite everyone to take a turn and say a prayer that coordinates with the colors of candy they have.

- **RED:** Pray for someone who doesn't know Jesus.
- **ORANGE:** Pray for someone at school, church or work who is going through a hard time, and needs to experience God's peace.
- **YELLOW:** Pray for peace in nations torn by war.
- **GREEN:** Pray for peace and unity in our country.
- **PURPLE:** Ask God to strengthen every person in your family with His peace.



## PEACE WITH GOD

Hold up a piece of paper. On one half write GOD, on the other—US. Explain that in the very beginning, when God created the world, Adam and Eve had peace with Him. But then they broke God's rules, and it separated them from God. (Rip the page in half.) For thousands of years, no matter what people tried, they couldn't make peace with God. So God did something amazing—He sent Jesus to take the punishment for all our mess-ups. When we accept Jesus, we become reconciled to God. (Demonstrate it by taping the two halves back together.)



Action Rhyme for Littles

# Away in a Manger



Away in a manger, no crib for His bed,



The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head;



The stars in the heavens looked down where He lay,

The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.



# Find Two Same Bells



# SEARCHING for BABY JESUS



