

	Session title	Text	Faith Link	Story Summary
PEACE WITH GOD				
1	Your Kingdom Come	Matthew 6:5–13	Seeking God's kingdom brings peace.	Jesus gave an example of prayer (what we call the Lord's Prayer). He emphasized the importance of forgiving others. Showy religious actions receive attention as an immediate reward; God rewards faithful acts done in secret. Jesus addressed God as Abba, or "Father," who would care for and provide for them. Jesus instructed the disciples to ask God to provide their daily needs, to forgive their sins, and to keep them safe. This prayer, known as the Lord's Prayer, begins by hallowing, or blessing, God's name.
2	Born of the Spirit	John 3:1–21	Believing in God brings peace.	A Jewish leader named Nicodemus came to Jesus at night to ask him about the amazing signs Jesus was doing. Jesus talked to Nicodemus about being born of the Spirit. Jesus compared this new birth to the blowing of the wind and told Nicodemus about God's great love for the world, believing in the Son of man, and having eternal life. Those who do what is true come into God's light.
3	Vine and Branches	John 15:1–17	Abiding in Jesus brings peace.	Jesus described himself as the true vine in God's vineyard. He wanted his followers to be branches abiding in God's love. God is the vinegrower, who prunes the branches so they can bear much fruit. Jesus' followers are to stay connected to the vine and bear fruit to the glory of God. Jesus called his followers as friends not servants. He commanded them to love one another as he had loved them.

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PEACE WITHIN				
4	Known and Loved	Psalms 139:1–18	God's presence brings peace.	The psalmist speaks of being fully known by God. Wherever we are, throughout all space and time, God is there. There is no place too high, too low, or too dark for God's presence to find us. We are wonderfully made. The psalmist tells of God's hands knitting us together even before birth. God's ways are mysterious; God's thoughts too numerous to count. God is with us always.
5	Letting Go of Worry	Matthew 6:25–34	Trusting God brings peace.	Jesus gave his followers words of assurance about God's care. He pointed out the birds that God feeds and the flowers and grasses that God clothes with astonishing beauty. If God cares for them in this way, how much more would God do for us! God knows what we need. If we put God first, we don't need to worry. As we let go of worry, we become free to focus on God's kingdom.
6	Peace of Heart and Mind	Philippians 4:4–9	Praying brings peace.	In his letter to the church at Philippi, Paul encouraged the believers to rejoice and give thanks to God, expressing all their concerns and needs to God in prayer. God's peace would fill their hearts and minds. Paul challenged them to focus their minds on things that are true, honorable, just, and praiseworthy, and to follow his example.

	Session title	Text	Faith Link	Story Summary
PEACE WITH OTHERS				
7	Jacob and Esau	Genesis 25:19–34; 27; 32:1–12, 33:1–17	Peacemakers forgive.	Rebekah and Isaac had twin sons, Jacob and Esau. Esau was born first, which meant he would get the primary inheritance and blessing. Esau sold his birthright to Jacob for a bowl of stew. Later, Jacob tricked his nearly blind father into giving him the blessing of the firstborn. Jacob ran far from home to avoid Esau's wrath. After twenty years, Jacob returned. Instead of the expected anger, Esau welcomed Jacob. They hugged each other, wept together, and then departed in peace.
8	Isaac and His Neighbors	Genesis 26:12–33	Peacemakers sometimes walk away from conflict.	Isaac dug wells in a dry land. His crops and flocks prospered, but the neighbors grew jealous and filled up the wells. So Isaac moved away and dug new wells. The new neighbors also quarreled over the water, so Isaac moved again. God promised to be with Isaac and his family, and Isaac worshiped God. King Abimelech realized God was with Isaac, and they feasted together and promised not to hurt each other.
9	Abigail and David	1 Samuel 25:1–35	Peacemakers act creatively to prevent violence.	David and his men were hiding near the fields of Nabal, a rich and selfish man. David's soldiers helped protect Nabal's flocks. Nabal insulted David's soldiers by excluding them from a feast. David called for war. But Nabal's wife, Abigail, quickly made a plan. She loaded food on her donkeys and went out to speak to David. She apologized for Nabal's behavior. David accepted Abigail's gifts and called off the fighting.
10	Elisha and the Soldiers	2 Kings 6:8–23	Peacemakers eat with their enemies.	Israel's neighbors were raiding their land. Elisha tipped off the king of Israel about Aram's plans to capture the Israelites. The angry king of Aram sent his troops to capture Elisha, who asked God to blind the soldiers. Elisha led the blind men to the king of Israel. Instead of killing them, Elisha ordered a feast and enemies ate together. After that the Arameans no longer came raiding in the land of Israel.

	Session title	Text	Faith Link	Story Summary
PEACE WITH CREATION				
11	God Tends a Garden	Genesis 2:4–23	Peacemakers join God in caring for the earth.	From the dust, God formed and breathed life into a person. Then God made every tree and a river that flowed from Eden. God planted a garden in Eden as a home for all created things. God gave instructions to care for the garden and to eat the fruit from every tree except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Then, God made animals and the human named them.
12	Celebrating the Harvest	Leviticus 23:33–43, Deuteronomy 16:13–15	Peacemakers share the bounty of the earth.	God gave Moses instructions for the Israelites to celebrate the Festival of Booths each year. It would serve as a reminder of the exodus and the Israelites' time of living in the wilderness. The Festival of Booths, or Sukkot, came at the end of harvest time. Families were to celebrate by living outdoors in temporary shelters for seven days. In this time of offerings and festivity, families, strangers, widows, and orphans would eat together.
13	Rejoicing with Creation	Isaiah 55:6–13	Peacemakers celebrate the beauty of the earth.	Isaiah called the people to seek God, whose thoughts and ways are higher than ours. In the same way that the rain and snow come from heaven, water the earth, and bring forth food, so God's word goes out and accomplishes what God desires. God leads us with joy and peace; the mountains and hills rejoice. The beauty of creation is a reminder of God's faithful love.