



SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS...MATTHEW 6:33

Fruit of the Spirit

Peace - Lesson 1

"We have been made right with God because of our faith. Now we have peace with him because of our Lord Jesus Christ." Romans 5:1 NIRV

Circle Time

Okay, guys! How's everybody doing today? We have been learning a lot about the fruit of the Spirit. Who can tell me what two parts of the fruit of the Spirit we have learned about so far? (Love and joy.) That's right! We have learned to LOVE God first and then LOVE our neighbor. And we have learned about how loving God grows JOY in us that overflows to others. Great job!

For the next few weeks we are going to learn about PEACE. We are going to learn how we can have peace with God and how He will then grow peace in us so we can live in peace with others. Can anyone tell me who the Prince of Peace is? (Jesus.) That's right. In the Bible Jesus was called the Prince of Peace. When Jesus was born an angel appeared and said "I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." Then the angels praised God saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased."

Why would the Bible call Jesus the Prince of Peace? When we sin, it separates us from God and breaks our relationship with Him. It also breaks our relationship with others. We fight and argue and do not treat others with love and kindness. We deserve punishment for our sin, but Jesus came as the Prince of Peace so we could have peace on earth. He died on a cross to take the punishment for our sins, so we could have peace with God. If we ask God to forgive our sins and believe in Jesus, God forgives us and restores our relationship with Him. Our broken relationship is healed and we get to follow God and let Him be the leader of our lives. When we let Him lead us and choose to listen and follow His ways, His Spirit grows peace in us. We can then have peace with others.

We often think of peace as just getting along with others or being still and quiet, but it is only when we have peace with God through Jesus Christ that we can have this kind of peace. The Bible tells us "We have been made right with God because of our faith. Now we have peace with him because of

our Lord Jesus Christ.” Romans 5:1. This is our memory verse! It is a long verse so let’s learn it by saying it together.

“We have been made right with God because of our faith. Now we have peace with him because of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Romans 5:1. Great job! When we have peace with God the Holy Spirit will grow the peace of God in our hearts and in our relationship with others.

Let’s pray and thank God for sending His son Jesus to be the Prince of Peace so that we can have peace in our hearts and in our relationship with Him and each other.

Prayer Time

Activity Time

The goal of this time is to utilize a variety of engaging activities –passive and active play, crafts, application, and more – to reinforce what was taught in the lesson. While you may not get to or through every activity, we encourage you to complete the “Take-Home” activity so children leave with a tangible reminder of what was discussed today.

If numbers are high and/or time and space allow, you may want to use a center format: divide the class into groups (one for each activity) and rotate through the centers after an allotted time.



Memory Verse Cards

Supplies:

Verse cards

Stickers

Crayons

Magnetic sleeves (for new children)

Give each child a verse card to decorate. Go over the verse and talk about how we can have peace with God as we put our faith and trust in Jesus. Have them say the verse three times.

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Fruit of the Spirit Ring Toss

Supplies:

Gallon water jug with “love” sign (1 per bin)

Gallon water jug with “joy” sign (1 per bin)
Gallon water jug with “peace” sign (1 per bin)
3 hula-hoops

Set each of the water jugs of the three aspects of the fruit we have talked about out on the floor in front of the children. Have each child take turns trying to get a hula-hoop around whichever aspect you call out. If you call “love” they need to try to get the hula-hoop around the jug with love on it.



P-E-A-C-E Hop

Supplies:
Each letter of the word P-E-A-C-E (1 set per bin)
Masking tape

Set the letters out to spell P-E-A-C-E like hopscotch in the shape of a cross on the floor and tape them down. Have the kids hop across the letters on the floor and say as they go: “P-E-A-C-E God gives PEACE to you and me!” Remind them it is through the work of Jesus at the cross that we can now be made right with God and have peace with Him.



Peace Parade

Supplies:
CD
Noisemakers (1 per child) (maracas, bells, pie plates to bang together, etc)

Turn on the CD and start playing the music. Let the children march in a circle and make noise with their noisemakers. Tell them that when the music stops they need to stop making noise and enjoy some peace and quiet. Then start the music again. When the music stops you can also have them say their memory verse together.

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