



HOUSE PARTY

PARENT GUIDE

Life App Definition

Peace is proving you care more about each other than winning an argument.

Main Idea

We kick off the month with something Paul writes about Jesus in Colossians 1:20 and John

20:1-18. On Easter Sunday, we want to make sure that kids know how they can have a relationship with Jesus. Throughout the entire Bible, we see God's plan to make peace with us. In the second part, the Colossians verse, Paul reminds us that it's through what Jesus did on the cross that the world can be right with God again. When God looked across humanity and saw the brokenness of our relationship with Him, He proved He cared about us by sending Jesus.

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 (NIRV)

Bottom Line

God made peace with us.

Small Group Discussion

ICE BREAKER: What is your favorite kind of Easter candy?

We are going to use some craft sticks to review the lesson and to teach how God had a plan in place over many years to bridge the gap between people and him. Each small group leader will have 7 craft sticks. You will use these sticks to retell the lesson and teach about how God bridged the gap between us.

- In the beginning, God was there and created everything (**hold up God stick**)
- When God created people, the people and God hung out together. God would come to the garden to walk with Adam and Eve. They were friends with God !! (**add people stick and put it close to God**)
- As time went on, did people stay close to God? Nope, they stopped listening and started doing their own thing. Who knows it is never a good thing to wander away from God? (**move the people stick away from God**)
- **Discussion Question:** What is it called when we disobey God? (**sin**)
 - So, when people sin, this sin separates them from God because He is perfect. (**put "sin" stick between people and God**)
- But that isn't the end of the story, God loved people so much, He didn't like being separated from them, so He came up with a plan to rescue people from their sin.

- **Discussion Question:** Who did God send as part of His rescue plan? (Jesus)
 - Put the God made peace stick over the sin stick completely covering it.
- See, when God made peace, He completely covered and forgave our sins so we can have a relationship with Him.
- **Discussion Question:** What did Jesus have to do to bridge the gap between God and people and bring peace? (die on the cross)
- Jesus followed God's rescue plan by dying on the cross so our sins can be forgiven. The plan continued when Jesus didn't stay dead but came back to life!! This showed us that He is more powerful than anything -- more powerful than sin and more powerful than death. Because of Jesus, we have Easter, and we can have peace knowing that our sins are forgiven and Jesus walks with us every day"
(Put the through Christ's blood, by His death, and on the cross sticks to make a bridge)

After teaching this story, use this time to ask the kids if they have received Jesus into their hearts so their sins can be forgiven. Lead them in a salvation prayer if they want to be sure that there is a bridge between them and God.

Take time to pray for areas that they need peace. Jesus came to give us peace not only between us and God, but in our everyday lives.