

“Peacemakers Defined”

Pre-session Activity

Under One Sky

From: Peacemaking Skills for Little Kids” S-21

Materials: “Under One Sky” sheet: hello in all difference languages & Pencils

Encourage the children to complete the word search to see all the ways different countries say hello.

Also have prayer request slips available for those who want to fill out a prayer request.

Gathering Circle

- ♥ Welcome
- ♥ Share the Daily Word
- ♥ Announcements
- ♥ Collect the Love Offering

Prayer Focus

Bible Quote:

Psalm 66:19

But verily God hath heard me; he hath attended to the voice of my prayer.

Introduce the prayer box and the prayer request slips and encourage the children to write or draw out their prayer requests and place them in the prayer box. Each class will be taking turns each week to say prayers for the requests in the box.

LESSON INTENTION

Today we will look at the characteristics that peacemakers have.

Issue: How can I be a peacemaker in my world?

Unity Principle: #5 - "I do and give my best by living the Truth I know. I make a difference."

Affirmation: I am a peacemaker, praying and working for the good of all.

12 Powers: ORDER: To create peace in our world we must begin by creating peace within ourselves.

Early Elementary Lesson: ***"Peacemakers Defined"***

What are the rules and guidelines for being a peacemaker?

Opening Activity...

Creating Chaos

Materials: A shopping bag and balloons of different colors – 3 for each child.

Beforehand: This is a game with no explained rules. Everything appears random and unfair. DON'T EXPLAIN ANYTHING. In order to understand the importance of ORDER and rules sometimes we need to experience chaos.

Action: *Make your directions vague and unclear – DO NOT ANSWER THEIR QUESTIONS.*

1. Seat the children in a circle. Let the children know we will be playing a game called "Blow Up Your Balloon."
2. Place the balloons in a shopping bag and ask each child to choose 3.
3. Tell them to start. If they are confused don't explain further, just remind them it is a game called "Blow Up Your Balloon."
4. As soon as some of the children have blown up their first balloon, begin calling some of the students with red balloon OUT. They have to sit out now. Ignore protests and don't explain.
5. Encourage the rest to continue. Then call the remaining students with red balloons out.
6. Now tell them the game is over.

Discuss:

1. What did you think of this game? Why?
2. Was it fun and/or fair?
3. Did you know what the rules were?
4. What do games need in order to be fair?

Then discuss why rules can be important, not only in this game but in life.

Story/Quote...**Romans 15:13**

Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Discussion Questions...

- ♦ What does this quote mean to you?
- ♦ What does it say about peace and believing?
- ♦ What do you believe about peace?

Peacemaker Poster

Each class received a "PEACEMAKER RULES" poster. Discuss each of the points on the poster in order to reach an agreement that these are rules we can follow.

The rules are:

1. We cooperate for peaceful purposes.
2. We speak with respect.
3. We listen with an open mind.
4. We act with kindness.
5. We care about each other's feelings.
6. We are responsible for what we say and do.

FOULS: Blaming * Bossing * Bringing up the past * Bullying * Cruel Humor * Getting even * Hitting * Making excuses * Name calling * Not listening * Not taking responsibility * Pushing * Put-downs * Sneering * Threats

Creative Expression...**Peacemaker Poster**

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The rules are:

7. We cooperate for peaceful purposes.
8. We speak with respect.
9. We listen with an open mind.

10. We act with kindness.
11. We care about each other's feelings.
12. We are responsible for what we say and do.

FOULS: Blaming * Bossing * Bringing up the past * Bullying * Cruel Humor * Getting even * Hitting * Making excuses * Name calling * Not listening * Not taking responsibility * Pushing * Put-downs * Sneering * Threats

If time permits you can begin working on your PEACEMAKER FLAGS. We will work on these again for the next few weeks.

Peacemaker Flags

Materials: Fabric paint or fabric markers; felt squares in lots of colors, scissors, fabric glue, paintbrushes; 3' x 4' piece of felt for flag.

This flag will represent your village and the people in it and how it is a peacemaking village. It will be a group project. So, as a group, decide what symbols, artwork or designs you want to put on your flag, remembering that it represents the people in your village and all of their peacemaking skills. It may take some time to decide upon the exact design. This is OK as we will be working on these flags for a few weeks. It can be one joint design or symbol or it can be individual pieces that work together. Put your village name in a prominent place on the flag. You can use fabric paint or you can cut your symbols, designs and letters from the felt and make a collage-type design. We will hang them in each of our classroom areas.

Elementary Lesson:

“Peacemakers Defined”

What are the rules and guidelines for being a peacemaker?

Opening Activities...

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11. Encourage the rest to continue. Then call the remaining students with red balloons out.
12. Now tell them the game is over.

Discuss:

5. What did you think of this game? Why?
6. Was it fun and/or fair?
7. Did you know what the rules were?
8. What do games need in order to be fair?

Then discuss why rules can be important, not only in this game but in life.

Story/Quote...

Isaiah 32:17

The work of righteousness will be peace, And the effect of righteousness, quietness and assurance forever.

Discussion Questions...

- ♦ What does it mean to be righteous?
- ♦ Why would they be working for peace?
- ♦ What does this quote say will happen if we work for peace?
- ♦ How will working of peace help us in our lives?
- ♦ How will it help the world?

Creative Expression...

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The rules are:

13. We cooperate for peaceful purposes.
14. We speak with respect.
15. We listen with an open mind.
16. We act with kindness.
17. We care about each other's feelings.
18. We are responsible for what we say and do.

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Uniteen Lesson:

“Peacemakers Defined”

What are the rules and guidelines for being a peacemaker?

PRAYER LEADERS:

Prayer Box Prayer

Materials: Prayer box, prayer cloth, and candle

Ask the children to help set up the prayer area. Gather them around the prayer box and invite them to share a prayer or good thoughts for the requests in the box.

Silent Unity Call

Encourage the group to choose a prayer request. Explain that Silent Unity is a place that prays 24 hours a day and we can call them anytime we want to. They will ask us for our prayer request and then will pray with us. They will continue to pray for us for 30 days.

Make a group call to Silent Unity and use the speaker phone in the CHAPLIAN’S OFFICE so all can hear. Determine what your prayer request is. 1-816-969-2000.

Story/Quote...

Isaiah 45:7

I form the light and create darkness, I make peace and create calamity; I, the Lord, do all these things.'

Discussion Questions...

- ♦ What is this quote saying about “The Lord?”
- ♦ Who has the power to create peace or calamity?
- ♦ What advice is this quote giving us?
- ♦ How can we create peace?

Peacemaker Poster

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The rules are:

19. We cooperate for peaceful purposes.
20. We speak with respect.
21. We listen with an open mind.
22. We act with kindness.
23. We care about each other’s feelings.
24. We are responsible for what we say and do.

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Creative Expression...

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The rules are:

- 25. We cooperate for peaceful purposes.
- 26. We speak with respect.
- 27. We listen with an open mind.
- 28. We act with kindness.
- 29. We care about each other's feelings.
- 30. We are responsible for what we say and do.

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Prayer Circles

This can be done in individual classrooms or the group can come back together at the end of class time. Assign someone to speak aloud a prayer from the heart.

- ♥ Invite everyone to form a circle and join hands and then invite each person to state a simple prayer affirmation (they may pass if they need to.)
- ♥ Prayer Circle Affirmation: ***I am a peacemaker, praying and working for the good of all.***

Close with the Prayer for Protection.