

THE PEACEMAKERS





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Christmas: Jesus Prince of Peace (Is. 9:6)

Children of God Are Peacemakers

The Beatitudes build on each other. When we are merciful, we work to have pure hearts before God, not being distracted by things of the world. When we are focused on God, it is easier for us to be peacemakers because children of God aren't distracted by the world's idea of who we should like and who we should call an enemy. Children of God work to bring *everyone* together, to bring *everyone* to God.

Those who make peace are called children of God. We make peace between ourselves and God when we confess our sins and follow Jesus, we make peace with others when we choose to be kind and pure hearted and merciful, even when the world would say we should be enemies.

There is one last important thing to mention as we wrap up today's lesson. Peacemaking is only possible because Jesus made peace with God for us. While we follow sin we are enemies of God, saying NO to his good word. Jesus came to make peace, through his cross—we can be totally forgiven and be welcomed back.

Do Not Be Afraid

But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news. It will bring great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord." (Luke 2:10-11, NIV)

Put the words of the verse on screen, then teach your students these hand motions to accompany the phrases:

But the angel said to them...

Flutter your hands like wings

"Do not be afraid..."

Shake your head vigorously

I bring you good news

Wave your hands up and down (exciting news)

That will cause great joy

Jump in the air

For all the people

Make quick pointing motions to many different people

Today in the town of David

Hands make megaphone around your mouth

A savior has been born to you

Pantomime rocking a baby in your arms

He is the Messiah, the Lord."

Point upwards to heaven with both hands

Power Point

Children of God are Peacemakers

MEMORY VERSE

Matthew 5:9,

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."

Isaiah 9:6, "And his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God, Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace."





Peacemakers Make “Wise-Way-Choices”

Peacemakers make “wise-way-choices” not “my-way-choices.”

1. **Conflict is an opportunity:** By handling it right we get a chance to glorify God, serve others and become better people. Even when conflict is caused by wrong doing and causes a great deal of stress, it can lead to good. You can use conflict to:

- **Glorify God** (by trusting, obeying, and imitating him)
- **Serve other people** (by helping to bear their burdens or by confronting them in love)
- **Grow to be like Christ** (by confessing wrong and turning from attitudes that promote conflict)

The “Five A’s” can resolve conflict. (Simple steps that lead to peace)

Children, like adults, can learn to confess their wrongs in a way that demonstrates they are taking full responsibility for their part in a conflict.

- **Admit what you did wrong.** Include both wrong desires and bad choices.
- **Apologize for how your choice affected the other person.** Express the sorrow you feel.
- **Accept the consequences for your wrongdoing** without argument or excuses.
- **Ask for forgiveness.**
- **Alter your choice in the future.** Think over and plan how you are going to act differently next time.

Peacemaker or Troublemaker

A kid with lots of peace is called a “peacemaker” and does these things:

- is obedient and kind to parents
- looks for ways to make friends at school.

The opposite of a peacemaker is a troublemaker, and that kid does these things:

- doesn’t pay attention to what mom and dad says
- causes a lot of problems with other kids at school

If you’re a follower of God, you should be closer to the “peacemaker” end than the “troublemaker” end. That’s what God wants. Now don’t panic – because nobody is perfect! But if you notice that you’re too far to the “troublemaker” side, talk about it! Admit that you’ve got to work on it, and start making peace. Pray to God that he will help you become a peacemaker, and ask your parents or friends to help you, too.

Did you know that Christmas is all about Jesus being a “peacemaker?” When he was born into the world, he came to make peace. In fact, there’s a famous verse about it:

Isaiah 9:6 *For a child is born to us, a son is given to us.... And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*





Bible Story

Angels Announce the Birth of the Prince of Peace

Once upon a starry night, in a little village nestled among rolling hills, there were shepherds tending their fluffy sheep. These shepherds were ordinary folks, with worn-out sandals and hearts full of dreams.



One chilly evening, as they sat around a crackling fire, something wonderful happened. The sky twinkled extra bright, and suddenly, **whoosh!** A group of shimmering angels appeared! Their wings sparkled like moonbeams, and their voices were as soft as lullabies.

“Good news!” sang the angels, their eyes gleaming. “In Bethlehem, a special baby has been born—a tiny King who will bring joy to the whole world!”

The shepherds blinked in wonder. “A baby King?” they whispered. “But why tell us?”

The angels smiled kindly. “Because you’re important too,” they said. “Go find the stable, where the star points. There, wrapped in swaddling cloths, you’ll discover Baby Jesus.”

The shepherds hurried down the hill, their hearts racing. And sure enough, in a humble stable, they found Mary, Jo-

seph, and the sweetest baby boy. His eyes sparkled like the angels’ wings, and his tiny hands reached out as if to say, “Welcome.”

The shepherds knelt, their breaths held in awe. They whispered blessings over Baby Jesus, and the angels sang once more, filling the night with joy.

From that moment on, the shepherds knew they were part of something bigger—a story of love, hope, and a little King who would change the world. And as they returned to their sheep, they whispered to the stars, “Thank you, angels, for sharing this heavenly secret with us.”

And so, dear ones, whenever you see a bright star or hear a gentle breeze, remember the shepherds and the angels. For their story reminds us that even the smallest hearts can hold the biggest miracles.



But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news. It will bring great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord.” (Luke 2:10-11, NIV)

