

SERIES BIG IDEA:

Jesus used culturally relevant stories to share timeless kingdom truths to lead people to God.

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6 (ESV)

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. 1 Peter 5:8 (ESV)

Jesus brought peace by joining us in our brokenness.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14 (ESV)

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me." The righteous will answer him, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?" The King will reply, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Matthew 25:35-40 (NIV)

Waging peace brings <u>hope</u> to those around when our hope is in <u>Christ</u>.

Jesus bore the weight of our sins so that we can experience peace that only He can provide.

TEACHING BIG IDEA:

Jesus has pursued peace with us so that we can become like him and be a peacemaker in all relationships.

Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. Hebrews 12:14 (NIV)

Jesus shows up biggest when we are at our lowest.

We experience the peace that comes with new life when we have been set free by the King and brought into a new family.

So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. John 8:36 (ESV)

But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. John 1:12 (ESV)



MY NOTES



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TEACHING SUMMARY:

Peace is something we all desire. Peace is something that we don't get to experience all that often. We are either in crisis, coming out of one, or about to go into another. We are not at peace.

Our sinful nature propels us to be peace destroyers. Through Jesus, we can be something more—we can be peacemakers.

Jesus, who is the Prince of Peace, came to earth to wage peace on behalf of His creation. He fought for peace by entering into our brokenness and bringing with Himself righteousness and justice.

Jesus is our example and when we submit to Him as Lord and receive Him as Savior we experience a peace that only comes from Him and we are enlisted into His family of peacemakers.

People who enter into the mess of another and bring God honoring righteousness and justice are bringers of Hope because of who lives in them and that is the call of all Christ Followers.

TALK-IT-OVER:

How have you seen a peacemaker experience opposition and conflict as they pursued doing what was right and just?

What are some difference between being a peacemaker and being someone who likes things to be a peace?

Is there a relationship where you need to be a peacemaker? How do you need to speak up for righteousness and justice to promote peace?

DAILY SCRIPTURE READING:

Day 1 - Psalm 89:36-37

Day 2 - Ephesians 6:10-13

Day 3: Romans 1:3-5

Day 4: 2 Corinthians 1:5-7

Day 5: Romans 12:14-18

Day 6: James 3:17-18