

WEEK 1

LESSON GUIDE



BIG IDEA

Making peace is part of
God's game plan.

BIBLE

David and Abigail:
1 Samuel 25:2–35

ABOUT THIS WEEK

To play a sport, you'll need a great coach with a good strategy to help you reach your goals. This week, we'll take a look at the time Abigail stepped in to bring peace between David and her husband, Nabal. By trusting God and sticking to the winning strategy, Abigail shows us how **making peace is part of God's game plan**.

WELCOME TIME

ACTIVITY | Balloon Volleys

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *For this activity, you will need yellow or green balloons ("tennis balls") and a piece of masking tape to divide the room in two. Kids will be divided into two groups and put on different tape sides. The kids will toss the balloons back and forth like they are playing tennis.*
- **Have you ever had an idea different than your friend's?** That can be really hard! When you have different ideas, that's called disagreeing. Disagreeing can feel like tennis. You just go back and forth and back and forth. You might say, "It's mine!" "No, it's my turn!"
- When you're disagreeing like that, it's hard to feel peace. Peace is what happens when we get along and find a way to agree.
- Today's story is about God's game plan for us. God wants us to have and make peace!

ACTIVITY | Peace Bridge

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *This activity is a variation of "Red Rover." Break the kids into two equal teams and have them hold hands on opposite sides of the room, creating two chains. Lead one team to call on a kid from the other team to "come over." When they do, instead of running through a pair of arms like in the original game, have the whole team, while still holding hands, form a circle around that kid and cheer for them! Repeat until every kid has had a chance to be cheered for. If you have a big group, call on a few kids at once.*
- **What helps you to feel peace?** When it's a scary, sad, or confusing day, sometimes kind words can bring peace.
- In today's Bible story, we will meet a woman named Abigail who chose to use kind words and good choices to help make peace.

STORY TIME

SCRIPTURE | 1 Samuel 25:2–35 (David and Abigail)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Teach this Scripture passage by reading from a preschool-friendly Bible translation, Bible storybook, or using the talking points provided below! Assign one side of the room as the "David" side and one as the "Abigail" side.
- Run to the David side.
 - **Let's meet David. Everybody say, "Hi David!"** Soon, David is going to be king over a land called Israel. God picked him to be king of Israel!
 - David sent a messenger to a man named Nabal and his wife Abigail, asking him to share some of his sheep. "We've been really nice to you and your people," David said. "Now, could you be nice and share with us?" "No way!" Nabal said.
 - **Everybody say, "No way!"**
- Run to the Abigail side.
 - Nabal asked, "Who is this David?" He didn't know who David was or what David had done!
 - **How do you think this made David feel?** David sure wasn't happy! David did not like what was said to his friends.
- Run to the David side.
 - His people were nice to Nabal's people. Why couldn't they be kind to his people?
 - **Everybody say, "Not cool!"**
- Run to the Abigail side.
 - But wait! Abigail stepped in to calm David down. She said sorry to David in Nabal's place.
 - She knew that God was with David and she wanted to help. Abigail knew how to make peace. She even gave David some gifts to help.
- Run to the David side.
 - David thanked Abigail and told her this: "Go in peace."
 - **Let's say, "Go in peace."**
 - There would be no more fighting that day. David wasn't angry anymore and there was peace again.
- **Who do you think won that match?** When we make peace happen, everybody wins!
- Peace is only possible because it's a part of God's plan for us. That means we can always find a way to make peace with God's help!

BIG IDEA | Making peace is part of God's game plan.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Introduce kids to today's Big Idea using the following hand motions:
- In any sports game, players need to follow the coach's game plan. We all have the best coach—God! God has the best game plan!
- Let's find out what's in God's game plan for us. Drumroll, please ... (Lead the kids in a drumroll.)
 - **Making peace** ([Sign language for "peace"](#) or hold up two fingers.)
 - **is part of God's** (Point up.)
 - **game plan.** (Open palms like a book.)

VIDEO | Teaching Video, Episode 1

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's episode of [Cali's World](https://vimeo.com/935645518/6ff5bda7cd). (https://vimeo.com/935645518/6ff5bda7cd) If you're short on time, show the illustrated [Bible story video](https://vimeo.com/996227634/2fac051eec). (https://vimeo.com/996227634/2fac051eec)

PRAYER

- Dear God, you're amazing. Thank you for showing us how to make peace. Please help me make peace with my family, friends, and everyone. Amen.

SHARING TIME

ACTIVITY | Circle Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Have a balloon for the group sitting in a circle. The one who has the balloon is the one who gets to speak. Start with the balloon yourself, then ask the first question and pass the balloon to the person who wants to answer. Keep the balloon moving around with all who wish to share.*
- **Why was David so mad?** *Nabal wasn't being kind. He didn't want to share his things.*
- **What did Abigail do to make peace?** *She calmed David down. She said sorry instead of Nabal. She offered gifts.*
- **How do you think that made David feel?** *David was happy.*
- **How can we make peace with our friends?** *We can share. We can take turns. We can say sorry. We can play fair.*
- **Making peace is whose game plan?** *God's!*

MEMORY VERSE | Psalm 33:11 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Help kids learn this month's memory verse by setting the words to the tune of "Old MacDonald Had a Farm." You can also have kids repeat the verse after you in small chunks, say them using silly voices, or create simple hand motions for keywords.*
- **"But the plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations."**

PLAY TIME

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print and distribute [this coloring page](#) along with crayons or markers. You can review today's Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse as the kids color.*