

LESSON 2 PEACE

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: Jesus Is Our Peace

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 9; John 14

GOD'S BIG STORY: Isaiah shares the promise that Jesus will come as a light to God's people, and this promise is fulfilled 700 years later when Jesus—the Prince of Peace—is born.

WORD OF WONDER: Faith is being sure of what we hope for and sure of what we do not see.
—from Hebrews 11:1

Activity: Peace and Chaos

Activity: Shadow Puppets

Worship

God's Big Story

Word of Wonder

Prayer and Blessing

Activity: Waiting for Peace

Wonder@Home™

Designed for families to engage in the wonder of God together at home. This resource includes a video, worship playlists, activities, and more!

Activity: Peace and Chaos

Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church.

Hello! Welcome to church! We're going to talk today about peace. Do you know what peace is?

Allow the kids to respond. **Let's play a game to see what peace is not!**

When I say, "chaos," you can jump up and down and wiggle and be loud. But when I hold up my hand and say, "peace," you can sit down and freeze and be quiet. Let's practice.

Invite the kids to practice wiggling and being loud when you say, "chaos" and then being still and quiet when you say, "peace." Repeat the activity with them a few times, varying the amount of time in "peace" and "chaos" mode each time.

Was it hard for some of you to be peaceful and still? Allow the kids to respond. **Peace means we don't have to be worried or afraid, even if life is chaotic—like when you were moving and loud! Peace is the calm feeling inside your heart—a deep feeling that everything will be OK, no matter what is happening around you or how busy you are.**

Make It Inclusive: Not all kids will feel comfortable with chaos and loud sounds. Give them something quiet to do in another area of the room, such as tossing a stuffed animal and catching it.

Activity: Shadow Puppets

SUPPLIES: flashlights (several), bin, small objects and toys in a variety of shapes

Ahead of time, set out a few flashlights near a plain light-colored wall to use as background. Make the space as dark as you can. Set out a bin of small objects and toys in a variety of shapes, which can be used to make shadows.

We're going to learn in our God's big story that Jesus was born to be a light in the world when the world seemed really dark. Have you seen a shadow puppet before? Allow kids to answer.

Shadow puppets are special because they need darkness and light to show up so you can see them!

Make a shadow puppet with your hands and invite kids to try with their own hands or use a small object or toy to hold up to the flashlight and a blank wall to see what it looks like.

Let the kids explore the objects and toys, taking turns holding them up to the flashlights so they can see the shadows on the walls. Encourage the kids to use their imaginations to make as many different shapes as they can.

We'll learn today that Jesus was born to be our light and be the Prince of Peace. We'll learn that Jesus is our peace.

Our Wonder Truth today is JESUS IS OUR PEACE.

Encourage the kids to do the following motions while you repeat the Wonder Truth. Older toddlers can say the words with you as they do the motions.

JESUS—Pretend to rock a baby.

IS OUR PEACE—Hold your palms together, going in both directions, then move them down toward the ground (sign language for "peace").

Worship

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: songs from the [Waiting for Jesus Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#)

Today we'll learn that Jesus brings peace. We can worship Him and thank Him for His peace. Let's sing and thank Him!

Play songs from the [Waiting for Jesus Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#) and encourage the kids to sing and dance as they praise God.

God's Big Story

SUPPLIES: Bible, flashlight

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: [Peace God's Big Story Video](#), Bible Story Picture (optional)

Our God's big story today is a great story from the Bible about a man named Isaiah, who gave a message about Jesus. Encourage the kids to say, "Isaiah." **Let's find out from the Bible what happened to him.**

Show the kids the God's Big Story Video, read the story from the Bible, or use the script provided below. You can also print the Bible Story Picture to give the kids a visual depiction as you tell the story.

Start with the lights off. **Many years before Jesus was born, people lived in darkness and worry because they needed to be close to God and be forgiven for things they did wrong. God told the prophet Isaiah an amazing promise to share with people. He said that people walking in darkness would see a great Light. God promised that a child would be born with many names. One of the names is Prince of Peace.**

God was talking about Jesus! Jesus was born 700 years later to be our peace! He brought light into the world! Turn on the lights in your room or shine a flashlight.

When Jesus knew His time on earth was almost over, He had a meal with His friends, the disciples, and told them, "I give you my peace."

God's plan was to send Jesus to die and rescue us and bring peace! When we choose to follow Jesus, He gives us the same gift He gave his friends on that night so long ago. Jesus gives us peace in our hearts, and it will last forever!

Make It Inclusive! Some kids may not be comfortable with darkness. Provide a space away from the larger group to allow them to do a similar activity.

Word of Wonder

SUPPLIES: Bible

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Word of Wonder Slide or [Video](#) (optional)

WORD OF WONDER

Faith is being sure of what we hope for and sure of what we do not see.

—from Hebrews 11:1

Ahead of time, display the Word of Wonder Slide or [Video](#), if using. **Our Word of Wonder for the Waiting for Jesus series is from Hebrews 11:1. Let's practice saying the Word of Wonder together.**

Encourage the kids to do the motions and say the verse with you.

- **FAITH**—Make prayer hands.
- **IS BEING SURE**—Make a fist with one hand, and put it down on your other hand (open palm).
- **OF WHAT WE HOPE FOR**—Put your fist down onto your open palm once for each word (what, hope).
- **AND SURE**—Hands on your hips.
- **OF WHAT WE DO NOT**—Hold one finger up and shake it back and forth (“No, No”).
- **SEE.**—Put your hands by your eyes like binoculars.
- **FROM HEBREWS 11:1**—Hands open like a book.

Prayer and Blessing

Let's pray and talk to God. God, we thank You for the gift of peace. When we are scared or worried, thank You for loving us and reminding us that You're right beside us. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Encourage the kids to hold their hands in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands are open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

Blessing: Jesus loves you and invites you to experience Him as your Prince of Peace. Close your eyes and imagine His face as He speaks these words over you: “I leave My peace with you. I give My peace to you ... do not let your hearts be troubled. And do not be afraid.”

Activity: Waiting for Peace

Jesus gives us peace when we're tired, sad, or worried. We can always trust Him and rest in His love. Let's play a game. In the game, you'll first be busy and get tired. Then we'll think about how Jesus can bring peace at all times! Listen to what I say and then do it.

Invite the kids to do the following things:

- Sit down.
- Stand up.
- Kick your legs.
- Go to every wall in the room and touch it.
- Wiggle your whole body.
- Swing your arms as big as you can.

- Sing or talk as loud as you can.
- Now sit down and be super still and quiet. (Count to 20 silently and encourage the kids to be still and quiet the whole time.)

It's OK if the toddlers can't do every action. Encourage them to do what they can and adjust according to your group's abilities.

Did you get tired doing all of those things? Allow the kids to respond. **What else makes you tired?** Allow the kids to respond. **How did you feel when you sat still and rested?** Allow the kids to respond. **Even when we are busy or things around us are loud, Jesus can bring quiet, rest, and peace inside your heart! Jesus is our peace!**