



TODAY'S TOPIC:

I Am a Peacemaker

You are welcome to use this lesson to inspire spiritual conversation in your family or youth classroom. It is written for elementary age but could be adjusted as needed.

THINKING JOB: Ask a “thinking job question” to get everyone thinking about something pertinent to the lesson. This could be asked moments or hours before your conversation.

What is something or someone that is peaceful?

Lesson

Materials	Things to Prepare	Today's Goal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online or printed pictures of famous peacemakers • Possibly scissors and markers or crayons • A small leaning ladder 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Know that everyone, and especially you, can be a peacemaker.</p>

CRAFT: *If materials are available, each person can craft round peace signs to decorate, include their name, and the words, “I am a peacemaker.” You can create these from paper, cardstock, paper plates, or wooden ones can be purchased online. Add string for hanging.*

ACTION: Have everyone make the peace sign with their fingers.



ASK: What do you think of when I say “peace”? stopping fighting and disagreement, quiet, a greeting or farewell, symbols like a dove or peace sign.

ASK: What does peace feel like? Quiet, resting, relaxing, caring, love, calm, still, warm, happy. **Have the kids be still for a few seconds and try to feel peaceful.**

ASK: How does peace start? Or who is in charge of peace? Peace starts with ME.
Have the kids say "I am a peacemaker."

ASK: Does anyone know of other famous peacemakers? Gandhi, Martin Luther King, the Dali Lama are probably the best known. **Show or pass around pictures.**

SHOW: Get out a small leaning (not folding) ladder. Ask for a volunteer to show how it can't stand up by itself. It needs help. Even if the ladder could stand, have you ever watched someone who had another person there to hold the ladder to make it extra strong and secure? Explain, let's pretend this ladder is about peace. Peacemakers are what make the ladder stand up and make peace happen.

SHARE: Here are some ways to be a peacemaker:

1. Listen and don't interrupt
2. Care about yourself and others
3. Be patient
4. Be helpful
5. Be flexible – you can change what you're doing
6. Be forgiving when other people make you mad
7. Be creative – think of new and different ways to solve problems.

SHOW: Show again how the ladder can stand if you hold it together. When you are a peacemaker, when you do things like help, care, forgive, you help hold the ladder for peace.

READING: This is a short story from China

One day an elephant saw a hummingbird lying flat on its back on the ground. The bird's tiny feet were raised up into the air. "What on earth are you doing, Hummingbird?" asked the elephant.

The hummingbird replied, "I have heard that the sky might fall today. If that should happen, I am ready to do my bit in holding it up."

The elephant laughed and mocked the tiny bird. "Do you think *those* little feet could hold up the sky?"

"Not alone," admitted the hummingbird. "But each must do what he can. And this is what *I* can do."

When you are a peacemaker, you are like the hummingbird.

AFFIRMATION – I am a peacemaker. repeat 4X

Note: Printable affirmations and coloring sheets for this lesson are available at <https://www.milehichurch.org/youth-family/> .