

## LESSON 3: FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT: PEACE

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Galatians 5:22; Genesis 26:12-33

### Worship Videos



- -“Good in Every Way” [\(watch here\)](#)
- “The Love of God” [\(watch here\)](#)
- “Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus” [\(watch here\)](#)

10/18/2020



### OPENING

[5 min]

Welcome

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### Introduce the Lesson

- Say: **Last week and over the next few weeks, we’re learning about the fruit of the Spirit. One place fruit grows is on trees. Last week we added “joy fruits” because we learned about joy.**

### Share

- Say: **As we learn about peace today, we’ll find out about a man who kept peace even when some other people ruined something he made. So let’s begin by talking about times people ruined something we made.** Share about a time someone ruined something *you* made. You might’ve made cupcakes and someone accidentally knocked them off the counter, or maybe you made a DIY (do-it-yourself) decoration for your home and someone broke it.
- Have kids share about a time someone ruined something *they* had just made. They might share about a special picture they made for a parent or how they built something and a sibling knocked it down.

## Summarize

Open a Bible, and say: **It's no fun when someone ruins something we put a lot of time into making. But we can still be peaceful in times like these. The man in the Bible story for today was named Isaac. Some people ruined Isaac's wells, but Isaac didn't start a fight. He was peaceful because he was God's friend, and peace is a fruit of the Spirit. When we're friends with God, God helps us have peace like Isaac did.**

Pray, thanking God that peace is a fruit of the Spirit and that God gives us peace so we can be peaceful with others.

## Dig In to the Bible

- Read: Galatians 5:22;

But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of **fruit** in our lives: **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, and self-control**. There is no law against these things! There is no law against these things!

- Genesis 26:12-35

<sup>12</sup> When Isaac planted his crops that year, he harvested a hundred times more grain than he planted, for the Lord blessed him. <sup>13</sup> He became a very rich man, and his wealth continued to grow. <sup>14</sup> He acquired so many flocks of sheep and goats, herds of cattle, and servants that the Philistines became jealous of him. <sup>15</sup> So the Philistines filled up all of Isaac's wells with dirt. These were the wells that had been dug by the servants of his father, Abraham.

<sup>16</sup> Finally, Abimelech ordered Isaac to leave the country. "Go somewhere else," he said, "for you have become too powerful for us."

<sup>17</sup> So Isaac moved away to the Gerar Valley, where he set up their tents and settled down. <sup>18</sup> He reopened the wells his father had dug, which the Philistines had filled in after Abraham's death. Isaac also restored the names Abraham had given them.

<sup>19</sup> Isaac's servants also dug in the Gerar Valley and discovered a well of fresh water. <sup>20</sup> But then the shepherds from Gerar came and claimed the spring. "This is our water," they said, and they argued over it with Isaac's herdsmen. So Isaac named the well Esek (which means "argument"). <sup>21</sup> Isaac's men then dug another well, but again

there was a dispute over it. So Isaac named it Sitnah (which means "hostility").<sup>22</sup> Abandoning that one, Isaac moved on and dug another well. This time there was no dispute over it, so Isaac named the place Rehoboth (which means "open space"), for he said, "At last the Lord has created enough space for us to prosper in this land."

<sup>23</sup> From there Isaac moved to Beersheba,<sup>24</sup> where the Lord appeared to him on the night of his arrival. "I am the God of your father, Abraham," he said. "Do not be afraid, for I am with you and will bless you. I will multiply your descendants, and they will become a great nation. I will do this because of my promise to Abraham, my servant."<sup>25</sup> Then Isaac built an altar there and worshiped the Lord. He set up his camp at that place, and his servants dug another well.

### **Isaac's Covenant with Abimelech**

<sup>26</sup> One day King Abimelech came from Gerar with his adviser, Ahuzzath, and also Phicol, his army commander.<sup>27</sup> "Why have you come here?" Isaac asked. "You obviously hate me, since you kicked me off your land."

<sup>28</sup> They replied, "We can plainly see that the Lord is with you. So we want to enter into a sworn treaty with you. Let's make a covenant."<sup>29</sup> Swear that you will not harm us, just as we have never troubled you. We have always treated you well, and we sent you away from us in peace. And now look how the Lord has blessed you!"

<sup>30</sup> So Isaac prepared a covenant feast to celebrate the treaty, and they ate and drank together.<sup>31</sup> Early the next morning, they each took a solemn oath not to interfere with each other. Then Isaac sent them home again, and they left him in peace.

<sup>32</sup> That very day Isaac's servants came and told him about a new well they had dug. "We've found water!" they exclaimed.<sup>33</sup> So Isaac named the well Shibah (which means "oath"). And to this day the town that grew up there is called Beersheba (which means "well of the oath").

<sup>34</sup> At the age of forty, Esau married two Hittite wives: Judith, the daughter of Beerli, and Basemath, the daughter of Elon.<sup>35</sup> But Esau's wives made life miserable for Isaac and Rebekah.

- In This Passage: Isaac has conflicts with various people over water rights. Instead of fighting, Isaac leaves each situation to find new water. In the end, he is able to find water and make a peace treaty.
- Bible Point: Peace is a fruit of the Spirit.
- Summary Verse: “But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!” (Galatians 5:22-23)



## TALK-ABOUT VIDEO

[10 min]

### A Moment of Peace

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#### Supplies

- “A Moment of Peace” teaching video

#### Discuss and Watch “A Moment of Peace”

Say: **We’re learning that peace is a fruit of the Spirit.**

Ask: • **Tell about something in your life that *doesn’t* feel peaceful.** Share your own story first.

Say: **Sometimes our lives are chaotic! We’re busy, or we don’t get along with our families, or things just don’t go our way. Let’s see how God can bring peace in those moments.**

Watch “A Moment of Peace.” teaching video [here](#)

Ask: • **What parts of this family’s day seemed the least peaceful to you?**

**What did they remind you of in your own life?**

• **What can you learn from how they regrouped and found peace?**

Say: **Even when life gets really crazy, God can bring us peace. That’s because peace is a fruit of the Spirit.**



### Supplies

- Bible
- 3-ounce white disposable cups (4 per child)
- fine-tip permanent markers (1 per child)
- pitchers of water (enough to fill 2 cups of water per child)
- empty pitcher (optional)
- dirt

### Make Wells

Say: Today's story shows that peace is a fruit of the Spirit. God can help his friends make peace, even when other people are being mean.

Our story is about a man named Isaac who had trouble keeping peace with the people living nearby. And it all had to do with some wells. Wells are deep holes dug in the ground until they hit water underground. That way, people can lower buckets into the well and pull up fresh water. Often, there's a little brick rim above ground at the top of the well that helps keep dirt out.

Let's make miniature wells.

Distribute one cup to each child, and have kids draw bricks on their cups.

Invite kids to come get water from your helper. As your helper is about to start pouring water into each child's cup, scoop a spoonful of dirt into each cup instead.

Say: This is a little like what happened to Isaac. God had blessed Isaac. Isaac had a successful farm, a lot of animals, and a lot of wells. But he lived near some people called the Philistines. The Philistines were jealous of everything Isaac had, so they did something mean.

Read Genesis 26:15-16.

<sup>15</sup> So the Philistines filled up all of Isaac's wells with dirt. These were the wells that had been dug by the servants of his father, Abraham.

<sup>16</sup> Finally, Abimelech ordered Isaac to leave the country. "Go somewhere else," he said, "for you have become too powerful for us."

Say: The Philistines ruined Isaac's wells and kicked him out. I'd be pretty mad! But you know what Isaac did? He peacefully moved away. Peace is a fruit of the Spirit, and God helped Isaac make peace.

### Make More Wells

Say: Isaac left the old wells behind. Have kids leave their "wells" against one wall. He worked hard, found where water might be underground, and dug some more wells in the new area he moved to. Let's make more wells, since our first ones got filled with dirt. Have kids each decorate a new cup.

Invite kids to come get some water from your helper. As soon as your helper pours the water, take the cup away from the child and pour it into another pitcher.

Say: Just when Isaac had gotten all set up with his new wells, this happened!

Read Genesis 26:19-20.

<sup>19</sup> Isaac's servants also dug in the Gerar Valley and discovered a well of fresh water.<sup>20</sup> But then the shepherds from Gerar came and claimed the spring. "This is our water," they said, and they argued over it with Isaac's herdsmen. So Isaac named the well Esek (which means "argument").

Ask: • Tell about a time someone took something that belonged to you.

Share your own story first.

• What did you do when that happened?

Say: Last time, Isaac just walked away. But surely he'll defend his well this time. He even named the place "argument"!

But...he didn't. He just dug another well. Peace is a fruit of the Spirit, so Isaac didn't get involved in the argument. Even though digging wells is tons of work, Isaac kept the peace. He just moved on. Let's make another well.

Distribute another cup to each child, and have kids decorate another well.

Invite kids to come get more water from your helper. This time, take the cups from the kids before your helper can even start to pour, and crush the cups.

Say: You won't believe this...but it happened *again*. Isaac dug another well, and someone tried to take that from him, too!

Ask: • What have you done so far to try to stop me from ruining or taking your wells?

**Say: If I were Isaac, I'd be pretty upset. The guy needs water to drink! Let's see what he did.**

Read Genesis 26:22.

<sup>19</sup> Isaac's servants also dug in the Gerar Valley and discovered a well of fresh water.<sup>20</sup> But then the shepherds from Gerar came and claimed the spring. "This is our water," they said, and they argued over it with Isaac's herdsmen. So Isaac named the well Esek (which means "argument").<sup>21</sup> Isaac's men then dug another well, but again there was a dispute over it. So Isaac named it Sitnah (which means "hostility").<sup>22</sup> Abandoning that one, Isaac moved on and dug another well. This time there was no dispute over it, so Isaac named the place Rehoboth (which means "open space"), for he said, "At last the Lord has created enough space for us to prosper in this land."

**Ask: • How would you describe Isaac's attitude?**

**Say: Even though Isaac's well got stolen *again*, Isaac trusted that God had made enough space for everyone to find water. Peace is a fruit of the Spirit, so Isaac didn't fight over his well.**

### **Enjoy Water**

**Say: Let's try digging *another* well. Give kids each a new cup, and have them decorate the well. When they've finished, they can come up to your helper and get water. This time, let them keep the water, but tell them not to drink yet.**

**Say: You put a lot of work into making new wells every time I took yours. And it's a lot more work than that to dig a real well! Finally, Isaac built a well, and it seemed like no one was going to take it.**

**But then...King Abimelech came back! Remember him? He's the king of the Philistines, the people who originally filled the wells in with dirt! What could *he* want?**

Read Genesis 26:28-32.

<sup>28</sup> They replied, "We can plainly see that the Lord is with you. So we want to enter into a sworn treaty with you. Let's make a covenant.<sup>29</sup> Swear that you will not harm us, just as we have never troubled you. We have always treated you well, and we sent you away from us in peace. And now look how the Lord has blessed you!"

<sup>30</sup> So Isaac prepared a covenant feast to celebrate the treaty, and they ate and drank together.<sup>31</sup> Early the next morning, they each took a solemn oath not to interfere with each other. Then Isaac sent them home again, and they left him in peace.

<sup>32</sup> That very day Isaac's servants came and told him about a new well they had dug. "We've found water!" they exclaimed.

Say: **I kept ruining your wells. But this time, let's make a treaty. A treaty is sort of like a promise.**

**Go up to kids and shake their hands, promising that you won't mess up their wells anymore. After you've made your treaties, allow kids to drink their water.**

Say: **Peace is a fruit of the Spirit. It might've been hard for you to act peacefully to me when I kept ruining your wells. It was probably hard for Isaac, too! We can't control what other people do. Sometimes they'll ruin our stuff, take our stuff, or hurt our feelings. But through God's Spirit working in us, we *can* control how we react. We can respond in peace.**





## LIFE APPLICATION WRAP-UP

[5 min]

### Run and Rest

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#### Pray While Running

- Have kids run in place.
- As kids run in place, they can talk to God about stress or conflict in their lives. Maybe they're mad at someone or in the middle of a fight. Maybe they're around people who fight a lot.

#### Pray While Resting

Say: **Peace is a fruit of the Spirit.** When we feel worn out from fighting with other people, God can help us make peace and find rest.

- Have kids lie down.
- Allow a moment for silent prayer to ask God for peace.

#### Wrap Up

Pray: **Jesus, thank you for giving us peace as a fruit of the Spirit.** Help us find your peace this week. In your name, amen.

Thank kids for coming, and encourage them to come back next week.

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