

PARENT CORNER

weekly

TODAY: APRIL 18

Bible Story: Let it Go (Jacob and Esau meet again)
Genesis 27:41-45; 31:3, 32:1-21; 33:1-11

Big Idea: It's better to let it go than get even.

Memory Verse: "So let us do all we can to live in peace. And let us work hard to build up one another." *Matthew 22:37-39 NirV*

Life App: Peace—Proving you care more about each other than winning an argument

Bible Story Summary:

In our story this week, we learned about Jacob and Esau. They were brothers, and Jacob stole Esau's birthright. In Bible times, this was a really big deal. The oldest son got to be the leader of the family and also received most of the family's money when the parents died. Jacob was so angry with his brother he threatened to kill Esau. Jacob fled to hide at his uncle's house. He stayed there for 20 years before going back home. Now that he would see his brother again, Esau had a choice to make. He could still be bitter and plan revenge against his brother or he could choose to let go instead of getting even. Esau made a wise choice and forgave Jacob.

God wants us to learn to let go instead of getting even. Think about the mercy with which God treats us. Instead of punishing or getting even with us, God offers us peace time and again. He knows He's right, but He gives us every opportunity to be reconciled to Him. God wants us to offer that same kind of patience to others. If we do this, we mend bridges with friends and family that we might have lost over something insignificant. As followers of Jesus, we should always have forgiveness to spare, even for the people who we think are in the wrong.

Bed Time



Ask a kid: Which of your friends would encourage you to choose peace instead of getting even?

Ask a parent: How can we, as a family, create an atmosphere of peace instead of fighting?



DAY 1

Read Genesis 33:3-4

Jacob and Esau were brothers. Jacob stole Esau's birthright. In Bible times, this was a really big deal. The person with the birthright got to be the leader of the family and he also received most of the family's money when the parents died. Jacob was so angry with his brother he threatened to kill Esau. Jacob hid at his uncle's house for 20 years before going back home. Now that he would see his brother again, Esau had a choice to make. He could still be bitter and plan to get back at his brother or he could choose to let go instead of getting even.

What did Esau do when he saw Jacob?

No one would blame Esau for being angry with Jacob, but Esau chose to **let go instead of getting even**.

Do you have brothers or sisters or friends who've done something that you thought was unfair or did something that made you mad? **Let go instead of getting even**. It is God's way and the only way to have real peace.

THANK God for your brothers and sisters.

DAY 2

Read Romans 12:18

Did you read that verse? Take a moment and read it again. It says, "live in peace with everyone." Really? Everyone? But what about all those kids you know who seem like they're never kind to anyone?

This verse says, "if possible, live in peace with everyone." That means that we should do everything we can to live in peace with others.

You might not be able to control what someone else does, but you can always choose to respond in a way that brings peace. It might mean letting go of what's fair. If someone hurts you, the fair thing would be to hurt them back. The fair thing would be to make them pay. But letting go of what's "fair" might mean that you walk away instead or choose to forgive. As much as you can, you should seek peace.

Write "Getting Even" on 7 sheets of toilet paper. Flush 1 in the toilet every day this week to help you decide each day to let go of getting even.

ASK God to help you choose peace with everyone.

DAY 3

Read Colossians 3:13

Sometimes it's a real "bear" to forgive our brother or sister because they know how to push all our buttons. But think about how many times you've messed up with God and how He's willing to forgive you. Probably a lot, right? Well, that's why we have to let go, even when our brothers and sisters make us mad: because God is willing to forgive us, over and over.

Make up a secret handshake with your siblings to use every time you get mad at each other. It's pretty hard to stay mad when you're doing something goofy.

LOOK for ways to forgive your brothers and sisters this week.

HEY PARENTS SIGN HERE!

Have a parent sign your completed GodTime.

Parent signature

Date

Return for 5 Bible Bucks!

parent CUE:

Want to know what your child is learning at church? Download a free app called Parent Cue. This app is put out by The reThink Group who writes the curriculum we use in Uptown as a guide to what our kids learn.

Parent Cue has parenting articles, blogs, and ways you can live out your faith at home. Week by week you will be given cues so you can make the most of your time with your kids for God.



DAY 4

Read Luke 6:37

We mess up all the time. We lie, we say unkind things, we whine to our parents, we disobey—the list goes on and on. And it's not really fair to expect God to forgive us when we don't forgive others, is it? So be quick to forgive others—to let it go even when you're mad, because that's what you want God to do for you.

Think of something someone did that made you really mad this week. Make a paper airplane and write the person's name on it. Then send it flying and shout, "I'm letting it GO!!"

KNOW that God will forgive you and He wants you to forgive others, too!

at a GLANCE



Bibles N Bucks Shopping:

- April 18 **Kindergarten**
- April 25 **4th grade**
- May 2 **3rd grade**
- May 9 **2nd grade**
- May 16 **1st grade**



Child's Name: _____