

Share Christ's Peace: Going Deeper

Reunion 2007

Lessons for Youth: Ages 12 to 17

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Introduction

The peace of Jesus is what the gospel is all about. It is the way Jesus lived, and it is what Jesus wants us to be in the world. Peace is the "good news" that the world needs to feel and hear.

When Jesus healed the sick, fed the hungry, forgave sins, and took care of those who were bullied or hated or ignored, he was a peacemaker. Everything Jesus did was peacemaking, and he challenges us to live *our* lives this way.

This year's reunion theme, "Share Christ's Peace: Going Deeper" gives us an opportunity to learn more about what the peace of Jesus means and what to do as disciples in the Community of Christ.

This week youth will learn to go deeper into Jesus' teachings; they will discover ways to seek the kingdom; they will break down walls that stand in the way of peace; they will say yes to Jesus; they will be models for peace in what they do and say.

May your reunion experience and your ministry with youth be blessed as you work together to bring about the peace of Jesus.

"The peace of Jesus Christ" contains all of the promises, hopes, and blessings of the gospel . . . Jesus Christ speaks "peace" and opens the way to peace . . . for the whole of creation.—Stephen M. Veazey, 2005 World Conference Sermon

Class Planning

Planning Checklist

___ Plan times, location, and expectations with camp director and reunion leadership team.

___ Choose activities.

___ Oversee budget.

___ Determine numbers of youth and their ages.

___ Determine format and schedule to be used.

- ___ Review and assign classrooms and activity areas—indoor and outdoor.
- ___ Distribute curriculum to leaders/teachers and prepare.

Community of Christ Hymnal Abbreviations

Hymns of the Saints—HS

Sing a New Song—NS

Sing for Peace—SP

By Request—R-

Class Planning

The class activities for youth are designed to be creative, experiential, and fresh—and should encourage scripture study, reflection, and application. Relax and let the youth explore and discover.

Class Structure

Materials are available so that youth can work by themselves, in pairs, in small groups, and with the entire class. Materials have been created with several options and should be studied to determine how best to meet the needs of the students. Materials can be adapted to fit the specific needs of the groups. Ideas for prayer, crafts, books, and films are given to incorporate into class time also.

Journal prompts are provided for personal reflection. Before class begins, prepare simple journals or provide supplies for each student to make their own on the first day of class.

Youth Involvement

Many youth like to be involved in class planning and can give important input into what would be meaningful and exciting for them. If possible, meet with youth before reunion; brainstorm ideas for movies, games, activities, and more. Once at reunion, depending on the skills of the group and activities selected, consider having youth lead some of the activities each day. For instance, youth can take turns leading the games, offering worship, leading prayer, etc. Be prepared to assist them, if needed, helping them to succeed.