



## SPEAK PEACE

Look forward  
to the coming  
of the  
Peacemaker.

### Scripture Words

Jesus will feed his flock like a  
shepherd.

He will carry the lambs in  
his arms.

He will gently lead the  
mother sheep.

—Isaiah 40:11 NRSV adapted

## HERE WE COME!

Use the phrase, “I want you to do something for me.” Have the children practice it a few times so it is familiar. Then take turns whispering to a child directions for how to say the phrase to the class. One can yell, one can cry, one can whisper, one can sing it, one can sound mad, one can sound happy. Let the children tell you how it feels to hear a request in these different tones. Which ones are pleasant or peaceful sounding?

## SCRIPTURE WORDS AND WORSHIP

Create a mini scripture book with the three lines of the verse. Use a picture of Jesus as a shepherd on the first page, Jesus carrying a lamb on the second page, and Jesus with a sheep following him on the third. The image of a shepherd was an important one for the Jewish people. They understood the need for strength, courage, gentleness, watchfulness, caring, and all the other characteristics that make a successful shepherd.

## STORY TALKING

At Christmas time we sing carols about peace on earth, but the earth is not a very peaceful place now. No one person can change things for the better single-handedly, but each person can do something where they are. Present situations the children experience every day that can be resolved peacefully. Let the children tell you what to do.

- You are playing with your toys and a younger brother or sister comes in and wants to play.
- Your brother or sister yells at you.
- You are playing a video game and your mother calls you to help get the dinner ready.
- You are waiting in line at the slide and someone pushes in front of you.
- You break something, but no one is around to see what you did.
- You see a tree in a store with name cards on it for people who might need help at Christmas time.

## UP AND AT 'EM

Let the children pretend to be the animals in the mural.

## SENSE-ATIONS

Give each child a picture (page 46). Add star stickers, fur for the lion, and cotton for the lamb.

## MOVING MUSIC

Teach Christmas carols with peace in the message. Check on the music to be used in worship and practice these songs with the children.

- “Peace Like a River” (page 21)
- “An Angel Came” (page 41)
- “Away in a Manger”

**Away in a Manger**

Martin Luther Carl Muller

1. A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his  
 2. The cat - tle are low - ing, the poor ba - by  
 3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask thee to

bed, The lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet  
 wakes, But lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he  
 stay Close by me for - ev - er, and love me, I

head; The stars in the sky looked down where he  
 makes. I love thee Lord Je - sus; look down from the  
 pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der

lay, The lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the hay.  
 sky And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.  
 care, And fit us for heav - ven to live with thee there.

## THERE WE GO

Ask the children to share what they learned about peacemaking and Jesus with their families and friends

## LIVE AND LEARN

The Isaiah prophecy about what we can expect of a peaceful earth is found in 2 Nephi 9:117–124. It begins by describing the characteristics of the Messiah. With the Spirit of the Lord resting on him, he will be wise and understanding, mighty and knowledgeable, and shall judge in righteousness. And then comes the list

of animals who will live together peacefully. Create a working mural that can be added to as new ideas come up. You will at least need pictures of a wolf, lamb, leopard, calf, lion cub, bear, ox, and snake. Other animals can be included from pictures the children find.

As you begin to tell the story, have the children in a position where they can add animals to the mural as they are mentioned. Place a child in the center, but provide outlines of a boy and a girl so each child can design one to look like themselves to be placed in the picture. This activity will move back and forth from story time to table time.

- In that day the wolf and the lamb will lie down together.
- The leopard and goats will be at peace.
- Calves and fat cattle will be safe among lions, and a little child shall lead them all.
- The cows will graze among bears.
- Cubs and calves will lie down together.
- Lions will eat grass like the cows.
- Babies will crawl safely among poisonous snakes and nothing shall hurt them (adapted from the Living Bible translation of Isaiah 11:6–9).



Let there be peace on earth.