



Reflections journal

— Chapter Five —

WRITTEN BY LINSEY DRISKILL



Heart



treasure

**Lord, Thank You
that I am a *Peacemaker*.**



Reflections journal

—Chapter Five—

Week one day 1

ANSLEY AND THE GIRLS WERE MATCHED UP with an elderly woman at church named Miss Cynthia. They learned about her troubles with her sister, Belinda, and how they had been fighting over their mom's missing pearls. The Daniels sisters wanted to be peacemakers and help Belinda and Miss Cynthia get along and reconcile.

*"Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God."*

MATTHEW 5:9

Heart  treasure

Lord, Thank You that I am a Peacemaker.

Help me to encourage peace
in my family and friendships.

In Jesus' name, amen.



HOW DO YOU FEEL WHEN THERE IS A PROBLEM OR CONFLICT IN ONE OF YOUR RELATIONSHIPS?

Having conflict is tough, but we can ask God to help us be **peacemakers**. When you switch around the two words in "peace-maker," what do you have?

_____ of _____.

Do you feel like you're a peacemaker (someone who encourages peace in your relationships)?

If so, how do you help encourage peace in your relationships?

If not, how can you encourage peace in your relationships?



Week one day 2

THE GIRLS CREATED THE DANIELS SISTERS SECRET DETECTIVE AGENCY. They wanted to figure out what happened to the sisters' missing pearls so Miss Cynthia and Belinda could be at peace with each other. Starting conflicts and arguments can make us anxious and discouraged, while being a peacemaker creates more joy in our hearts and in our relationships.

"Those who promote peace have joy."

PROVERBS 12:20

Heart  treasure

Lord, Thank You that I am a Peacemaker.

And, thank You for the joy that comes from promoting and encouraging peace.

In Jesus' name, amen.

**BE LIKE THE DANIELS SISTERS THIS WEEK BY ENCOURAGING
PEACE IN YOUR RELATIONSHIPS.**

Who is someone you would like to have more peace with this week?

Every time you need help this week, stop and ask Jesus to help you and He will. After all, He is the Prince of Peace!

BE A DETECTIVE AND SEARCH FOR THE LETTERS IN THE
PICTURE THAT MAKE UP THE WORD **PEACE**. As you search
for the letters and color them in, ask the Lord to
help you be a peacemaker. Watch the joy that
comes as you seek peace instead of conflict.



Week one day 3

IF WE DEPEND ON WORLDLY THINGS FOR PEACE

they will not last long or satisfy us. But, Jesus' peace lasts and satisfies our hearts.

"Peace I leave with you;

My peace I give you.

I do not give to you as the world gives.

*Do not let your hearts be troubled and
do not be afraid."*

JESUS (JOHN 14:27)

Heart  treasure

Lord, Thank You that I am a Peacemaker.

And, thank You that You give me a peace
that lasts and satisfies.

In Jesus' name, amen.

MISS CYNTHIA THOUGHT THAT GETTING HER MOM'S PEARLS

would create peace, but instead, it created conflict. Have you had a time you were in an argument with someone over an item? What happened?

Whether you got the item or didn't, how did you feel during the situation?

In John 14:27, Jesus says He doesn't give as the world gives.

What do you think Jesus means by this? (*Hint: If you're unsure, read 1 Peter 1:24 and 2 Corinthians 4:18 to give you an idea.*)

In John 14:27, Jesus says He gives you His peace. How would you describe Jesus' peace?

**WHAT IS THE OPPOSITE OF A "TROUBLED
AND FEARFUL" HEART? (TRACE THE WORD.)**

*A Heart at
Peace*

Week one *day* 4

**WHEN THE PEACE OF JESUS IS IN OUR HEARTS,
WE ARE MORE LIKELY TO BE PEACEMAKERS.**

Jesus is the greatest peacemaker of all, giving His very life to create peace and relationship between us and God. The more we spend time with the Prince of Peace, Jesus, the more we will have His peace.

*“May those who love You be secure.
May there be peace within your walls
and security within your citadels.
For the sake of my family and friends,
I will say, ‘Peace be within you.’”*

PSALM 122:6-8

Heart



treasure

Lord, Thank You that I am a Peacemaker.

Thank You Jesus for giving Your life for us
and for giving me Your peace.

In Jesus' name, amen.

**DO YOU THINK HAVING PEACE MEANS YOU'LL NEVER HAVE CONFLICT
IN YOUR RELATIONSHIPS?**

Even Jesus dealt with some very tough times and conflict, but where did His peace come from?

Many times throughout Jesus' journey, He took time away to pray to God for strength and peace to help Him. Just as Jesus took time to pray, write a prayer to God asking to have His peace "within your walls" and for your family and friends to have God's peace as well.



Week one day 5

MISS CYNTHIA TOLD ANSLEY, “FOR YEARS MY SISTER AND I ARGUED OVER WHO WOULD INHERIT MOTHER’S PEARLS.

In fact, one of the last things Mother ever told us both was to stop fighting over them.” Miss Cynthia had a hard time when things didn’t go her way. If we depend on circumstances for peace, we will also have a hard time when things don’t go our way. But if the peace of Jesus is within us, even though we might feel sad, we will know that He is our greatest hope and peace.

*“I have told you these things,
so that in Me you may have peace.
In this world you will have trouble.
But take heart! I have overcome the world.”*

JESUS (JOHN 16:33)

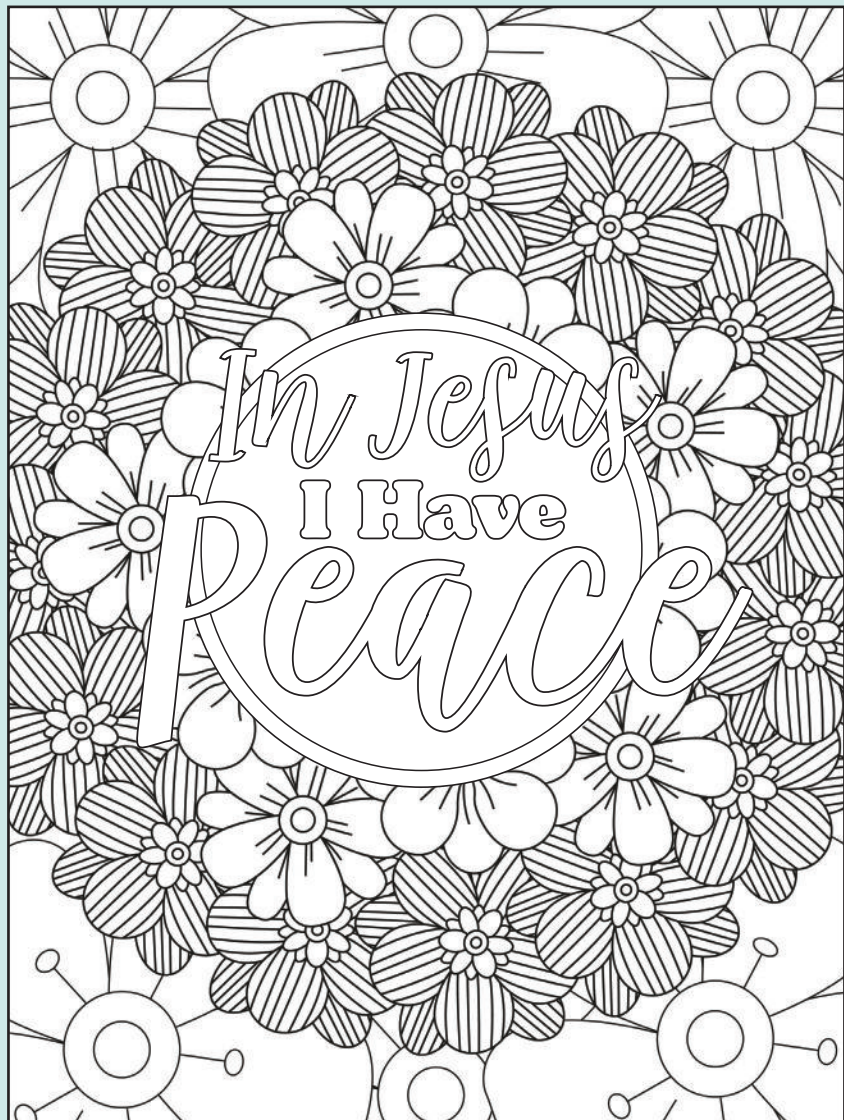
Heart  treasure

Lord, Thank You that I am a Peacemaker.

And that no matter what happens, I can
always have hope and peace in You.

In Jesus’ name, amen.

THE WORDS, "TAKE HEART" IN TODAY'S VERSE MEAN TO HAVE COURAGE AND TO BE HOPEFUL. So in the midst of hard things, Jesus is reminding us that our peace is in Him. As you color the picture, reflect on the peace of Jesus.



Week two day 1

ANSLEY SAID, "BUT, NOW ALL THREE OF MY SISTERS WERE GONE GETTING FOOD, and I was left to face Miss Cynthia alone. I swallowed hard and turned back around to face her. *What do I say?* I wondered." Sometimes we're unsure of what to say which can make us feel nervous or anxious, but we can rely on the Lord in these situations. In Mark 13:11, Jesus said these encouraging words to His disciples for when they would face difficult times ahead:

"Just say whatever is given you at the time, for it is not you speaking, but the Holy Spirit."

Heart  treasure

Lord, Thank You that I am a Peacemaker.

Please lead my words and give me Your peace when I feel nervous or anxious.

In Jesus' name, amen.

WHAT IS A TIME YOU STRUGGLED WITH WHAT TO SAY IN A SITUATION? What can you do in the future when you're unsure of what to do or say?



Just as the Holy Spirit helps us figure out what to say, see if you can figure out what goes in the blanks through remembering or looking up the verses. This is how the Holy Spirit works—He reminds you of God's Word and also directs you.

1. "For God so loved the _____ that He gave His one and only _____, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have _____." JOHN 3:16

2. "God is _____." 1 JOHN 4:8

3. Jesus is the "Prince of _____." ISAIAH 9:6

4. "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, _____, patience, _____, goodness, _____, gentleness, and _____."

GALATIANS 5:22-23

5. Jesus said: "I am the way and the _____ and the _____. No one comes to the Father except through _____." JOHN 14:6

Week two day 2

JUST AS ANSLEY WAS UNCOMFORTABLE TALKING BY HERSELF WITH MISS CYNTHIA, you might have felt the same way. Moses did. Sometimes stepping out of our comfort zone is what ends up bringing peace. When the Israelites were enslaved by the Egyptians, the Lord said,

*“I am concerned about their suffering.
So I have come down to rescue them.”*

EXODUS 3:7-8

The Lord told Moses He was sending him to Pharaoh to free the Israelites. But Pharaoh was scary and Moses was afraid to tell him to let his people go. Moses even said to the Lord,

*“Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and
bring the Israelites out of Egypt?”*

EXODUS 3:11

Heart  treasure

Lord, Thank You that I am a Peacemaker.

Help me to be confident in You and to step up when You ask me to, even if there are bumps along the way.

In Jesus' name, amen.

HAVE YOU EVER FELT INADEQUATE OR LIKE YOU'RE NOT ENOUGH IN A SITUATION, like Ansley and Moses did? What happened?



How do you think God answered Moses when Moses didn't feel like he could make a difference for the Lord?



Whether it is being a leader in a group, speaking up more in a situation, or something else, how can you get out of your comfort zone and make a difference this week?





Week two day 3

REMEMBER HOW MOSES TOLD THE LORD he didn't feel like he was equipped to go to Pharaoh by saying, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh?" Well, right after Moses shared those words, God said,

"I will be with you."

EXODUS 3:12

How about that! God didn't list Moses' great qualities or leadership skills being the reason God picked him. Nope. God simply said, "I will be with you." God is the one who equips us to lead. He. Is. Enough.

Heart  treasure

Lord, Thank You that I am a Peacemaker.

When I don't feel equipped to do something, help me to have peace and confidence knowing that You are enough and that You are with me.

In Jesus' name, amen.

FILL IN EACH BLANK AND THEN PRAY EACH PRAYER TO THE LORD.

I AM NERVOUS ABOUT

_____,
**BUT I CAN BE AT PEACE,
LORD, BECAUSE**
I know You are with me.

I AM MAD ABOUT

_____,
**BUT I CAN BE AT PEACE,
LORD, BECAUSE**
I know You are with me.

I AM EXCITED ABOUT

_____,
**AND I CAN BE AT PEACE,
LORD, BECAUSE**
I know You are with me.

I AM SCARED ABOUT

_____,
**BUT I CAN BE AT PEACE,
LORD, BECAUSE**
I know You are with me.

I AM HAPPY ABOUT

_____,
**AND I CAN BE AT PEACE,
LORD, BECAUSE**
I know You are with me.

Week two day 4

JUST AS ANSLEY STRUGGLED TO KNOW WHAT TO SAY TO MISS CYNTHIA, Moses didn't want to talk to Pharaoh. He said,

*"Pardon your servant, Lord. I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor since
You have spoken to your servant.
I am slow of speech and tongue.*

The Lord said to him, 'Who gave human beings their mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? Is it not I, the Lord? Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say.'

EXODUS 4:10-12

Heart  treasure

Lord, Thank You that I am a Peacemaker.

Thank you, Lord, that You will give me the words to say when I need them and that I can depend on You. *In Jesus' name, amen.*

MOSES SAID THAT HIS “WEAKNESS” WAS THAT HE DIDN’T SPEAK WELL AND HAD SLOW SPEECH. What is one of your weaknesses or something you struggle with?

.....

.....



If God used Moses to make a difference in many people’s lives, despite his difficulty with speaking, what do you think God can do in your life?

.....

.....

In our verse today, read again how God responded to Moses after Moses shared his difficulty with speaking—what point was God trying to get across to Moses?

.....

Just as God created Moses, God created you just the way you are. God can use things we might view as weaknesses for His glory. What did God tell Moses to do after He said that He created him? God said, “Now, _____.”

Do you remember what happened because Moses trusted God? The Red Sea was parted and the Israelites were freed! Moses might not have felt at peace at first, but He chose to trust the Lord and God’s peace was with him.

What does the very last part of the verse say that God will do?

.....

**REMEMBER THAT WHATEVER
SITUATION YOU ARE IN, GOD WILL ALSO
HELP YOU WHEN YOU LOOK TO
HIM AND TRUST HIM.**

Week two day 5

GUESS WHAT MOSES DID NEXT—He probably agreed to go, right? Wrong. Moses said,

*“Pardon your servant, Lord.
Please send someone else.”*

EXODUS 4:13

When we think of Moses, we usually think of the Ten Commandments and the great leader who helped free the Israelites. But, not his struggles or that he was scared to do what God wanted Him to do. This was God’s reply to Moses:

“What about your brother, Aaron the Levite? I know he can speak well. He is already on his way to meet you, and he will be glad to see you. You shall speak to him and put words in his mouth; I will help both of you speak and will teach you what to do”

EXODUS 4:13-15

Heart  treasure

Lord, Thank You that I am a Peacemaker.

I praise You that You go before me,
give me the peace I need, and equip me
to do great things for You.

In Jesus’ name, amen.

DO YOU EVER WANT GOD TO SEND SOMEONE ELSE TO STAND UP FOR SOMEONE, to share about Jesus, or to be the one who is a peacemaker? Share about it.

What is something you think God might want you to do—big or small?

Is there anything holding you back from doing it? If so, what?

Instead of focusing on your own abilities, look to God. What qualities of God can help you in this situation?

UNSCRAMBLE THE WORDS

Here are some more of God's amazing qualities that can help you!
(The answers are upside down below.)

GOD IS:

GORTNS _____	PSMNIORENTE _____
ESWI _____	NGHUOE _____
FPULWORE _____	DVORPIRE _____

Week three day 1

IN WEEK TWO, WE LEARNED HOW GOD EQUIPPED MOSES and made him strong and capable. In **2 Corinthians 12:8-10**, Paul, a great missionary of the Lord, asked God to take away one of his struggles and weaknesses. Paul shares,

“Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But He said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness.’ Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”

Heart  treasure

Lord, Thank You that I am a Peacemaker.

Remind me that my peace and strength come from You. And that in my weaknesses, I am strong. *In Jesus’ name, amen.*

THE VERSE TELLS US THAT GOD'S POWER IS MADE PERFECT IN

_____.

WHY DID PAUL BOAST ABOUT HIS WEAKNESSES?

So that _____

may rest on _____.

DECODE THE PUZZLE BELOW to be reminded of an awesome truth:

“



”



Week three *day* 2

ANSLEY WONDERED, "Dad says older people have a lot of wisdom to share. And I'd like to hear some. But maybe instead of thinking about what I could get from her, I should be thinking about what I could give to her instead."

Giving to others promotes peace.

"Freely you have received; freely give."

JESUS (MATTHEW 10:8)

Heart



treasure

Lord, Thank You that I am a Peacemaker.

Help me to encourage peace for those
around me by giving freely.

In Jesus' name, amen.

JUST AS ANSLEY THOUGHT IT WOULD BE GOOD to give to Miss Cynthia by listening to her and encouraging peace, is there someone you would like to give to?

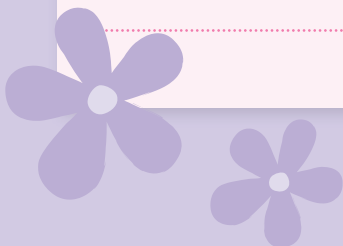


What is something you can freely give to this person, whether it's a card, your time, a listening ear or something else?



Freely giving to someone through helping, making a card or praying for that person helps us to have more peace in our relationships. Right now, ask the Lord if there is someone in your family you give to out of love. See who God brings to mind. **Who came to mind?**

What is something that you can do for that person?



Week three day 3

ANSLEY SHARED THAT MISS CYNTHIA WAS UNCOMFORTABLE—maybe even in pain—because her back was bent over. In **Luke 13:12–13**, we learn that there is a woman who had been bent over and couldn't straighten up for 18 years!

*“When Jesus saw her, He called out to her,
‘Woman, you are free of your disability.’
Then He laid His hands on her,
and instantly she was restored
and began to glorify God.”*

Miss Cynthia didn't just have physical pain. She also had heart pain because of the difficulty with her sister, but when we go to Jesus as the woman did in Luke, we get peace and are set free.

Heart  treasure

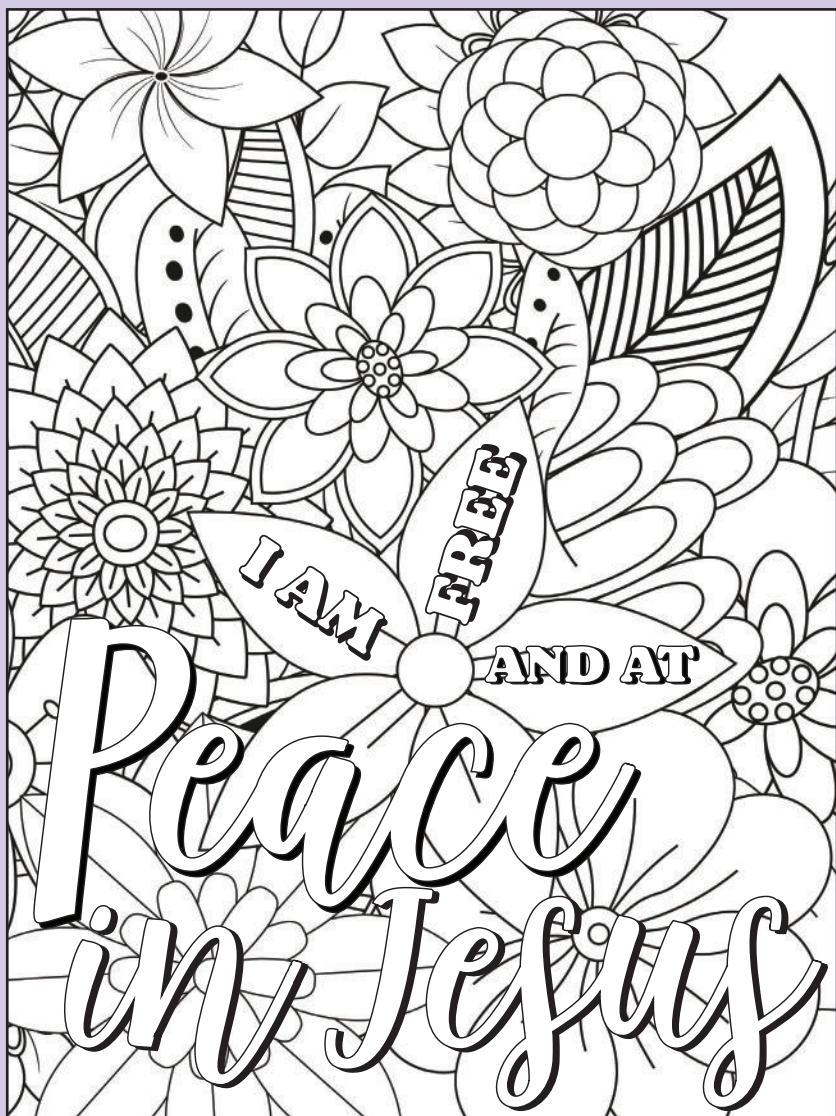
Lord, Thank You that I am a Peacemaker.

I pray my heart will be full of Your peace.

Heal me where I need healing.

In Jesus' name, amen.

AS YOU COLOR IN THIS PICTURE, reflect on how Jesus sets you free and gives you a heart at peace.



Week three day 4

ANSLEY SAID THAT UNDERSTANDING ALL THESE THINGS about Miss Cynthia made her feel a pang of sorrow for her in her heart. Ansley had compassion and showed kindness, a fruit of the Spirit. The fruit of the Spirit are godly qualities that come from having God's Spirit within us.

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control."

GALATIANS 5:22-23

Heart  treasure

Lord, Thank You that I am a Peacemaker.

I pray Your Spirit would lead me in the way
I love You and love others.

In Jesus' name, amen.

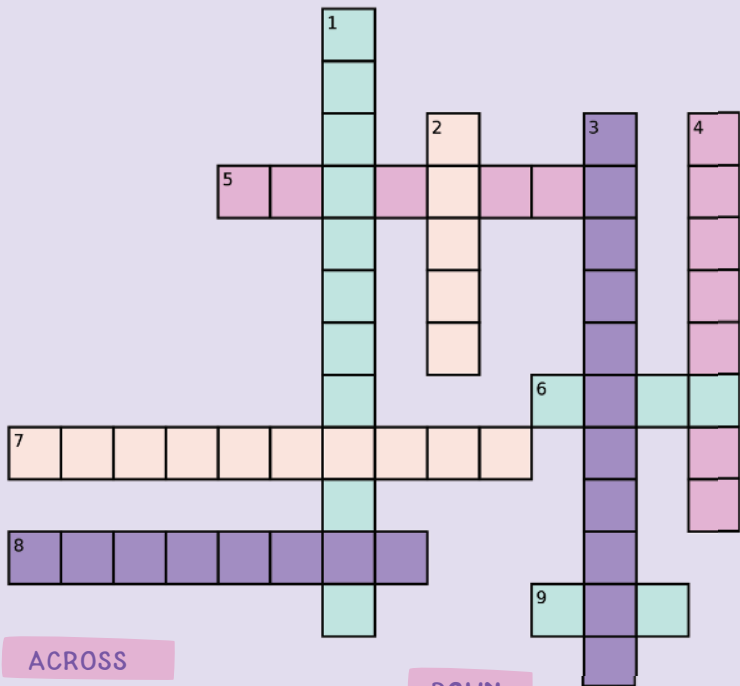
WHAT ARE SOME OTHER FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT THAT ANSLEY SHOWED TOWARD MISS CYNTHIA?

Do you see the fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-23 that is also our theme for this month?

What is it? _____.



Complete this crossword puzzle with the fruit of the Spirit from our verse today. Ask God for each fruit of the Spirit as you write each word.



ACROSS

5. THE ABILITY TO ENDURE TROUBLE OR DIFFICULTY WITHOUT GETTING ANGRY
6. SELFLESSNESS, DEEP CONNECTION, KINDNESS
7. TENDERNESS
8. FRIENDLY, GENEROUS, CONSIDERATE
9. CONTENTMENT/HAPPINESS THAT IS LASTING

DOWN

1. TRUST AND LOYALTY
2. TRANQUILITY AND CALMNESS, NOT BEING CHAOTIC
3. IN CONTROL OF ONESELF
4. BEING MOTIVATED BY LOVE

Week three day 5

YESTERDAY, WE LEARNED THAT ANSLEY FELT SORROW FOR MISS CYNTHIA. She shared, "Which is why (even though it made me feel nervous to bring it up), I decided to talk to her about her sister." We can fan the flame of a conflict and make it grow by gossiping or encouraging a person to be mad and retaliate. But a peacemaker is someone who tries to make peace, just like Ansley was trying to do. Even though it might be harder at first, God will bless it.

"Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness."

JAMES 3:18

Heart  treasure

Lord, Thank You that I am a Peacemaker.

I pray I will encourage peace with
the people around me.

In Jesus' name, amen.



IS THERE A TIME WHEN YOU GOSSIPED, OR DID OR SAID SOMETHING TO CAUSE MORE CONFLICT? If so, how did the situation turn out?

Is there a time when you encouraged peace between friends or family? What happened and how did that situation turn out?

Which of those times created more peace in the relationship?

FILL IN THE BLANKS:

“ _____ who sow
in _____ reap a
harvest of _____.”

JAMES 3:18

Week four day 1

JESUS IS THE SOURCE OF OUR PEACE. It's not something we create on our own. He is the One who gives it to us. In *Colossians 3:15*, Paul tells us to let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts. This is a daily thing we need to ask the Lord for help with since we are human and aren't perfect. But, throughout the day, if we ask Jesus for His peace to rule our hearts, He will help us.

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace."

COLOSSIANS 3:15

Heart  treasure

Lord, Thank You that I am a Peacemaker.

I pray Your peace would rule in my heart.

In Jesus' name, amen.



If something or someone rules a place, what does that mean?

.....

So when Paul says in Colossians to let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, what does he mean?

.....

Paul says to let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts since we are called to

What is the opposite of the “peace of Christ ruling in our hearts?”

.....

.....

What are some of the good things that can come from the peace of Christ ruling in your heart?

.....

.....



THE PEACE OF
CHRIST RULES
IN MY HEART.

Week four day 2

THE GIRLS' DAD SAID, "MISS CYNTHIA LIVES ALONE, YOU SAY?"

Maybe the church can do something for her. Have someone check in on her every week. Call her up. Do some grocery shopping, that sort of thing." When we are peacemakers and sow peace in others' lives by delivering groceries for an elderly person or something else, many times that love and peace is passed on to others as well. In Romans 12:20 after the Lord says to not take revenge, we are told,

"On the contrary: 'If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink.'"

Heart  treasure

Lord, Thank You that I am a Peacemaker.

Help me to create peace by loving others in practical ways. *In Jesus' name, amen.*

INSTEAD OF TAKING REVENGE, what are we told to do in ***Romans 12:20***?

.....

.....

What do you think about that?

.....

If Miss Cynthia puts this verse into action, what do you think could happen with her relationship with her sister?

.....

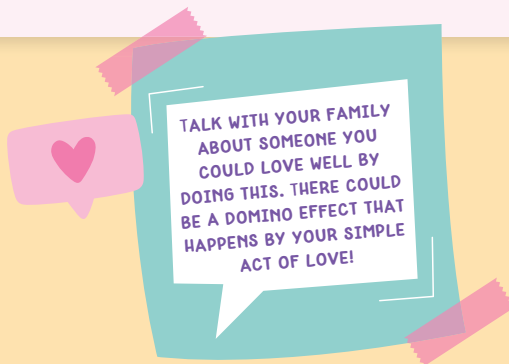
What do you think might happen to Miss Cynthia's heart after the Daniels sisters do something kind for her, like bring her groceries?

.....

Is there someone coming to mind who you could help out by bringing groceries or a meal to that person? Who?

.....

.....



Week four day 3

"MISS CYNTHIA MUST BE AWFULLY LONELY,"

KITTY SAID. Their dad said, "It sounds like she could definitely use visitors from time to time. Are any of you up to doing that? Kind of adopting her as a grandma?" My sisters and I didn't say anything at first. It sounded like it could kind of be hard work. But I finally spoke up. "Maybe we could go two by two like the apostles did."

"Then Jesus went around teaching from village to village. Calling the twelve to him, He began to send them out two by two."

MARK 6:6-7

Heart



treasure

Lord, Thank You that I am a Peacemaker.

Help me to spread the peace of
Christ as the apostles did.

In Jesus' name, amen.

WHAT ARE SOME REASONS YOU THINK JESUS SENT OUT "THE TWELVE" IN GROUPS OF TWO?



What friend would you want to go with to share the love of Christ?

Brainstorm some practical ways you two could share the peace and love of Christ with someone:



Week four day 4

LENA SAID TO HER FAMILY, “I think what Miss Cynthia really needs is reconciliation with her sister. They need to make up. You know, forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us?” Remember that the Lord’s Prayer is what Jesus used to teach us how to pray. When we have these words in our hearts, it helps us be humble which can lead to better relationships and to experiencing Jesus’ peace.

“Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.”

LUKE 11:4

Heart  treasure

Lord, Thank You that I am a Peacemaker.

Help me to forgive others when they sin against me. And, please forgive me when I sin and don’t love You or others as I should.

In Jesus’ name, amen.



WRITE EACH PHRASE OF THE LORD'S PRAYER IN YOUR OWN WORDS. A few hints have been given below about some of the phrases.

Our Father in heaven:

Hallowed (Holy) be Your name:

Your kingdom come:

Your will be done:

On earth as it is in heaven:

Give us today our daily bread:

And forgive us our debts (or sins):

**as we also have forgiven our debtors
(those who have sinned against us):**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the
evil one:**

*Take a moment and pray this prayer to your
Father in heaven, who hears you and loves you.*

Week four *day* 5

ANSLEY SAID, "AND IF SHE AND HER SISTER DID MAKE UP I just know Miss Cynthia would be a lot happier and a lot less lonely." Later on, their dad said, "What I do know is, if we can possibly help these two ladies rediscover the treasure they have in each other, then we should at least try."

"If you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift."

JESUS (MATTHEW 5:23-24)

Heart  treasure

Lord, Thank You that I am a Peacemaker.

Help me to be reconciled and at peace
in my relationships.

In Jesus' name, amen.

IN MATTHEW 5:23-24, WHAT DOES JESUS SAY HE WANTS YOU TO do before you come and offer something to the Lord?

.....

The word reconciliation means "to be at peace again."

Is there someone who you need to reconcile with? Who?

.....

As the sisters' dad said, we can rediscover the treasures we have in others if we focus more on their gifts and good qualities than their shortcomings. How do you think that could help?

.....

What are some simple steps to help reconcile or have peace again?

.....

.....

UNSCRAMBLE THE WORDS

For some additional ideas to help reconcile:

YRPA _____ EB MBLUHE _____

SOSCFNEF _____ VEROFIG _____



Lord,
Thank You that
I Am a Peacemaker.