READ: MATTHEW 5:23-24 — DAY 1

When you have an argument or fight with someone or when another person hurts you or when you're in the wrong, peace is hard to find. In fact, when we're the person that's hurting, the last thing we feel like doing is making things right. And when you're the one that caused the problem in the first place, it's even harder to admit it and ask for forgiveness in order to bring peace.

But that's exactly what we're supposed to do. In fact, we need to try to make things right *before* we worship God. He wants us to do that so we come to worship Him with peaceful hearts and minds. That might seem crazy but he wants us to live in peace and make things right with others first.

Is there someone you need to forgive or someone that needs to forgive you? Make a plan to do whatever you can to seek peace before today is done.

THANK God for reminding you to seek peace before worshipping Him.

READ: 1 SAMUEL 25:32-33 — DAY 2

Do you remember this story from church this week? If not, look up 1 Samuel 25:1-35 and take a moment to review it. Abigail definitely used some quick thinking to make things right. And because she took steps to seek forgiveness, her family was saved from certain death. Abigail knew that David was angry and that her husband Nabal was the cause. She did everything she could to bring peace and be part of the solution.

When you are in the wrong, what is the first thing you should do? Well, think about what you would hope the other person would do for you. Chances are you would want them to ask for forgiveness and care about you enough to make things right.

Grab a piece of paper and pen. Set a timer for 2 minutes and write down ways you can make peace if you hurt someone this week. After you're done, take a look at your list. Circle your top three choices and remember to follow through with them this week.

ASK God to help you be part of the solution to bring peace this week.

READ: PROVERBS 17:1

DAY 3

Have you ever been so mad at your brother or sister or mom or dad that you couldn't even talk to them? Did you say something mean? Did you storm out of the room and slam the door behind you? Did you purposely do things to annoy them?

Sometimes the people we live with, the one's who know us best, can drive us the most crazy. And sometimes it seems almost impossible to always live in peace with your siblings and parents. But guess what? Even though it might seem impossible, God still calls us to be peacemakers. In fact, a peaceful home with one small loaf of bread for dinner is BETTER than a huge feast surrounded by fighting family members.

At your next family meal, have everyone go around the table and share how they can be peacemakers this week. What is one thing they will each promise to do to be part of the solution to bring peace in your home this week?
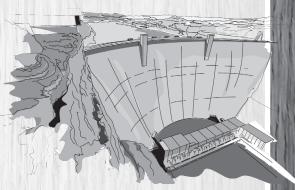
LOOK for ways to bring peace in your own family this week.

READ: PROVERBS 17:14

DAY 4

Dams are built to help store water for irrigation, provide drinking water or electricity or to help control flooding. What do you think happens if the dam gets a crack in it? Water could start to pour out. And that crack could potentially destroy the whole dam. A little crack could become a really big problem.

The same is true in our relationships. When we fight or hurt others, it's like a tiny crack in the side of a dam. If you keep fighting, pretty soon, the little crack can become a BIG problem. It's better to stop a fight and become part of the solution. That way a little crack has no chance of forming in the first place.

Find a plastic baggie and fill it with water in the kitchen sink. Seal it and turn it upside down. Notice how it holds the water like a dam holds back water. Now, empty the baggie and poke a hole in it. Try to fill it again. How's it doing at holding that water back? Not so well, huh? This is the same thing that happens in our relationships when we argue.

KNOW that we can protect relationships by stopping arguments BEFORE they start.

PROVE YOU CARE ABOUT OTHERS BY BEING PART OF THE SOLUTION.