

LEADER GUIDE | WEEK ONE

Peace: Calm in the Chaos | **Peace** | week of **January 7**

INTRODUCTION TO THE LESSON

Welcome back! We hope you had a great Christmas and can't wait to see what God does this year in your life and in your small group. As 2024 begins, this series aims to remind us of the peace that Jesus brings that helps sustain us through the chaos and struggles of life. While there will be times when God rescues us from the chaos, more often He guides us through it and shows us what peace looks like in the midst of it.

Here is the layout for the series:

Week One: What is peace + how do you get it?

Week Two: There's a place for peace in the mess of family.

Week Three: Big emotions don't need to threaten your peace.

Week Four: The path to peace includes forgiveness.

Week Five: Peaceful people work for unity with others.

something new for this series

After spending time as a group reading + discussing the scripture passages, you will give 2-5 minutes of silence for your group to individually process what God has been revealing to them through the passages and what next steps He is calling them to take. Afterward, encourage them to share how they will apply what God showed them during the discussion today. This will be something you will do for the next five weeks of this series- so follow up each week by asking how well they did applying what they learned in their lives.

ICE BREAKER AND THIS WEEK'S BIG IDEA

Use these questions to start your group's discussion recapping their holiday + the weekend teaching.

The new year is a great time for new habits! Encourage your group to make weekend service attendance a priority.

SCRIPTURE AND DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Your group will explore 2 sections of Scripture in this week's lesson: looking at the creation + fall of the world in Genesis and then the restoration of the world in Revelation 21.

Since *hopefully* many in your group will be reading along with the [2|42 Bible Reading Plan](#), rather than read aloud Genesis 1-3, have people from your group retell the story in their own words. Then, referencing the text, have your group spend time finding where they see peace + chaos in the story. What do we learn about God in this passage and what is His promise? (See Genesis 3|15 if the group is stuck.)

Jumping to the very last chapter of the Bible, explore Revelation 22 with your group. What does this passage say about God? How do the themes of peace and chaos show themselves here? What does it mean to live in this "in between" time of waiting for the full restoration? Have your group share ways they experience and find God's peace in the middle of their struggles or the brokenness of the world around them.

After studying those 2 sections, give space for silence in your group to reflect and then share back with each other how they will apply what they have learned in the next week.

new leader tip

Make a group text chat (or use a group app), and have each person share their reflections + applications with each other. This allows the group to be praying for each other and to remind one another to be ready to share next week.

PRAYER

Pray as a group for each person in a focused way to:

- Experience God's peace throughout their week
- Support each person as they take the next step God revealed to them.
- Share with others how they are experiencing peace.

EXTRA INFO TO SHARE WITH YOUR GROUP

STEP ONE | Invite those newer to your group or newer to 2|42 to attend the next Step One class at your campus. They can learn more and RSVP at [242community.com/stepone](#)

LEADERSHIP COMMUNITY | RSVP to attend Leadership Community at [242community.com/leadership-community](#)
NIGHT TO SHINE | Help make this night special for our guests! Learn more + [sign up](#) to volunteer.

KIDS + STUDENTS CAMPS | Sign-ups are open now for [summer camps!](#)

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ICE BREAKER QUESTION

Share a highlight from the holidays.

THIS WEEK'S BIG IDEA

Jesus offers peace in the midst of chaos.

What do you remember from the weekend teaching?

SCRIPTURE + DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Have someone retell the story of creation from Genesis 1 + 2. Have another person share about what happens in Genesis 3.

Looking at Genesis 1-3,

1. Where do you see peace?
2. When do you see chaos?
3. What do you learn about God in this passage?
4. What did God promise in Genesis 3|15.

Read Revelation 22|1-7

5. What does this passage say about God and His plan?
6. We know this promise is coming, but it isn't here yet. How are you experiencing peace in the midst of chaos?

Take 2-5 minutes of silence for everyone to quiet their hearts, reflect on what they have heard, listen to God, and think about the next steps He has for them.

7. Share with the group how you will apply what God showed you during our discussion today.

PRAYER

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- Share with others how they are experiencing peace.