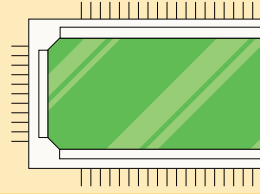


Peace is proving you care more about each other than winning an argument.



DAY 1

Read Matthew 5:9

Mirror Mirror

Grab a handheld mirror or go stand in front of the bathroom mirror. Make the silliest face you can. Now make a serious face. Next, an angry face. Lastly, just smile.

As you look at your image reflecting back at you, think on this truth: You are made in the image of God. Maybe you can't make a mountain appear out of nowhere or hear every prayer prayed at the same time. But you can love and forgive and feel and think like God! You have God's fingerprints all over you, and when you choose to bring peace to a situation, you reflect God! Just like when you look in a mirror. You show others you belong to God by the way you treat them. We look most like God when we choose peace.

DAY 2

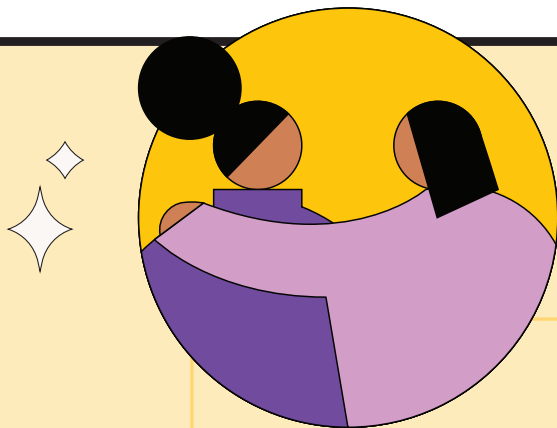
Read 2 Corinthians 13:11

Think about the last argument or disagreement you had with someone. Write that person's first initial in this blank. _____

What was your argument about? Do you remember? Are you still mad or holding a bit of a grudge?

Peace takes WORK. It's easy to get angry. It's much harder to work towards peace. Paul included these words of 2 Corinthians 13:11 in his letter to the church in Corinth. Right at the end, Paul told his readers to work to make things right, to help, to agree, and to LIVE in peace.

Think back again to your last argument. Do you need to apologize for something you said or did when you argued? Ask God to help you do the right thing—to say what you need to say so you can work towards peace.



DAY 3

Read James 3:18

When you first plant a seed, you don't see results right away. But if you keep at it—if you care for it, water it, give it plenty of sunlight—that seed will sprout and grow. The same is true of our relationships with others. We have to do everything we can to live in peace, to be part of the solution. We have to keep at it, knowing that in the long run, our relationships will be stronger and better when we work towards peace.

Plant Care

Are there plants in your home? Write down today's verse on a card and place it beside your plant. If you don't have any plants, draw a picture of one on a piece of paper instead. When you walk by your plant or drawing, remember that peace doesn't just happen. Just like you tend to a plant to help it grow, peace is something you have to work toward every day.

DAY 4

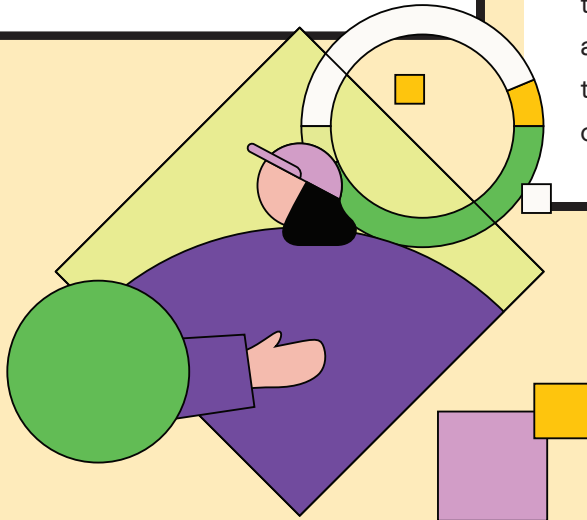
Read Psalm 34:14

When you lose something really important, what do you do? Do you say, "Oh well, I guess there's no point in looking. It's probably gone forever." NO way! You dig through drawers, you crawl under beds, you retrace your steps to check every place you've been, hoping to find what you've lost. In order to find it, you have to look for it.

The same is true for finding peace in our relationships. We have to look for ways to bring peace. In other words, we have to be intentional about seeking peace. It doesn't just happen on its own.

Look For It

Grab two pipe cleaners to create some crazy glasses. With one pipe cleaner, form the right eye and earpiece. With the other, form the left eye and earpiece. Twist the two pieces together. Wear them to a family meal this week and if your parent asks what they are for, tell them you're on a secret spy mission in search of peace this week.



You can help others
make peace.