



**January 12**

**I am Secure**

**Kindergarten - 5th grade**

**Leader Notes**

**Bible Passage:** Elisha and the Widow's Oil- 2 Kings 4:1-7

**Bottom Line:** God is my peace when I am anxious.

**Leader Context:** Our Bible story today is about the prophet Elisha and a widow. When this widow was anxious about how her family would survive, Elisha helped her know that God would provide in an amazing way. (Read 2 Kings 4:2-4.) God performed a miracle in multiplying the oil and providing for the widow and her family. Today, we get to help kids realize who God is, that He is in control, and that means they can rest assured and be at peace in the middle of hard circumstances. He is our peace.

**THE WIN FOR SUNDAY GROUPS:** Give kids a first look at The Bible, Jesus, and our need for a Savior by embracing their physical needs or engaging their interests. Use The Code when necessary to help redirect kids and build relationships.

**Games and Music (10 minutes)**

**What You Need:** Instruction Page, Game Sets, Roku Game Instruction Page, Cups (1 per child), Cotton balls (several), Timer or stopwatch (1 per group), Tissues (several)

**What You Do:**

- Play worship songs and other songs available on Roku during the Social Game or while kids are playing.
- Using the supplies and game instruction page, choose one game to play with the kids today.
- As you are playing, use this as a time to call each kid by name and learn their names well.

**Say:** That was a fun game to get us ready to watch our Bible video. Let's sit and listen to our story today."

**Social**

**Bible Story Video (10 minutes)**

**Bible Story Recap- Say This**

What an incredible story! The widow in our Bible story was worried that she would lose her children because of the money she owed! Did Elisha ignore her and leave her in her worries? Say, "No way!" (*No way!*) God worked through Elisha to perform a miracle for the woman. God multiplied her oil to sell enough to pay the debt she owed. God cared for the widow and worked through Elisha to help her. God gave her peace, and she could know she was secure in Him.

Did you know that God is our peace when we are anxious? What do I mean by that? Being anxious can mean feeling worried or stressed out about something. Anytime that we face anxieties in our lives—from school, from our friends, and even issues at home—we can be secure in knowing and trusting that God is our peace. Say, "God is my peace when I am anxious!" (*God is my peace when I am anxious!*) We can trust God and know that, when we follow Him, we are secure and locked in with Him.

Let's pray and ask God to help us remember that.

*God, thank You for our time together today. Thank You for the truth we found in our Bible story about Elisha and the widow. Help us to remember that whenever we face hard times or have anxiety, we can turn to You and ask for Your help. Amen.*

**Videos**

**Gospel Connection- Say This**

Using the 4 Circles Gospel Art in your group space talk about how the story today relates to the circles.

**(Circle two)** We all have times when we're anxious. Ask me, "Why is that?" (Why is that?) Our world, the way we view things, and even the way we feel are all broken because of sin. Sin is choosing to do what we think is best instead of following what God says is best. The brokenness that is all around us is caused by sin. Brokenness often causes us anxiety because we aren't sure what's going to happen, like the woman in our Bible story today. Our sin breaks our relationship with God and deserves to be punished.

**(Circle one)** That's not how God created things to be. In the very beginning, God created the earth and people. It was perfect! God created people to know Him, love Him, and trust Him no matter what. When people have a relationship with God, they get to live in His peace! Sin broke that peace-filled relationship, but there is good news! Everyone, say, "Good news!" (*Good news!*)

**(Circle three)** The good news is that God didn't leave us in our brokenness to figure it out ourselves. God had a plan to restore what was broken and to bring us into relationship with Him. God sent His Son, Jesus, into the world to live a perfect life, facing all the same hardships and temptations that we face, but doing it all without sinning. Jesus then died on a cross to take the punishment for our sins, even though He didn't deserve it. He did this because He loved us so much. He came back to life three days later, defeating sin and death!

**(Circle four)** When we admit our sin to Jesus, ask Him to forgive us, and turn from our sin to follow Jesus, our lives change! We can have a relationship with Him where we are secure in God, no matter what we face. We can trust Him with our worries and anxieties and know that He is our peace. Say, "I am secure!" (*I am secure!*) "God is my peace when I am anxious!" (*God is my peace when I am anxious!*)

If you want to know more about following Jesus and finding security and peace in Him, talk with me or your Campus Leader.

**Leader Tip:** Discuss anxiety and other mental health issues in ways that are thoughtful, caring, and take into consideration the unique circumstances of the kids facing them. As needed, take time to individually talk with kids who have specific struggles with anxiety. Check out these resources for more information about helping kids deal with anxiety.

<https://kidsministry.lifeway.com/2019/06/17/helping-kids-who-deal-with-anxiety-issues/>

**Peace Jar (20 minutes)**

**Kids will create a mosaic that reminds them that God is their peace.**

**Big Goal:** Learn that turning to God when we are anxious can bring us peace.

**Leader Prep:** Print copies of the “Peace Jar” printable for each child. Set out supplies. Write *God is my peace* on the dry erase board.

1. Draw a small picture of yourself looking anxious and worried in the center of the construction paper.
2. Decorate and cut out the “Peace Jar.”
3. Glue the sides of the jar around the picture, folding the paper slightly so it rises above the picture, and you can see inside.
4. Write *God is my peace* around the jar.

**Supplies:** “Peace Jar” printable (1 per child), Construction paper (1 per child), Child-safe scissors (1 per child), Markers or crayons (1 per child), Glue sticks (1 per child), Dry erase board and marker (1 per group)

**What To Do:** In this activity, we are going to design a jar with the phrase “God is my peace” written over our design. First, draw a small picture of yourself looking worried or anxious in the middle of your construction paper. Then, you will decorate your jar. Color it with designs, patterns, and colors that help you feel peaceful. When you finish, cut out the jar. *(Allow kids to complete this step.)*

Now, glue the sides of your “Peace Jar” over your picture. It will surround your picture and pop out a little so you can still peek in and see your drawing. When you finish, write *God is my peace* around your jar.

**Loud And Clear:** We are secure in God like the woman in our Bible story. She saw this when God performed a miracle and kept the oil filling her jars! Whenever we face hard times and find ourselves feeling anxious, we can turn to God, and He will be our peace. Your pictures will help you remember that God is your peace.

**Discussion Questions:**

- Tell me about a time when you had to be focused, or locked in, to something you were doing? *(Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.)*
- The Bible tells us that we are secure, and that God is our peace when we are anxious. Let’s open our Bibles to **2 Kings 4:2-4** and read about it together. *(Invite kids to open their Bibles. Read the passage aloud, or invite a kid who volunteers to read the passage aloud. Be sure to have Bibles available for kids who need one. Help kids find the passage so everyone can follow along together.)* Do you think it was easy for the widow to trust God when Elisha told her what to do? What do you think her trust in God was like after the oil kept flowing? *(Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.)*

### Discussion Questions- cont:

- When we face hard times and find ourselves feeling anxious, it's important for us to remember that God is our peace. What's the difference between turning to God and turning to other things to find peace? *(Help kids to understand that when we trust in God, He can help us when we encounter times that are anxious. We are secure and sure in Him because He is in control. Other things in this world aren't as secure.)*
- When we find ourselves anxious and worried, how can our Bible story help us know what we should do? *(We can turn to God and trust that He will take care of us.)* What are some ways we can turn to God when we feel anxious? *(Answers may include reading Bible verses about peace; praying; making reminders around our house that say, "Jesus is our peace;" and so forth.)*
- The Bible tells us that we are secure in God and that He is our peace. Being locked into Jesus means we can know this peace whenever we face challenging times. What is something encouraging you will remember from today? Is there anything you have questions about? *(Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.)* Let's talk to God and pray. *(Lead the group in prayer. Consider using the following prayer prompt.)*

*God, thank You for today. Thank You for the truth that You are our peace when we are anxious. Help us to remember to turn to You, lock in on Your truth, and be secure in You whenever we face anxiety. Amen.*

The way God helped the widow in our Bible story can help us remember that He is our peace when we are anxious. When we trust and follow Jesus, we are locked in and secure in God.

## Going Home

Pass out the coloring pages for kids to take home. Greet families as they arrive and tell them something about their child you saw today. Say goodbye and call everyone by name.