

Day 2

Read Romans 12:18 and Acts 9:26–28.

After you've read all the verses, compare them. How do you see both Saul and Barnabas trying to live in peace with everyone?

Without looking, do you remember what the first two words of Romans 12:18 were?

Those two words are important because it's not always completely up to us to live in peace with everyone.

In fact, we can see that playing out in Acts 9, when Saul is trying to live peacefully among the believers, but they don't trust him. They had heard what he had done to believers in other towns, and they were understandably afraid.

But thankfully, Barnabas was also committed to the idea of living in peace with everyone, so he stepped in to help make the peace.

Even if peace doesn't feel possible, God can make a way for us!

Day 3

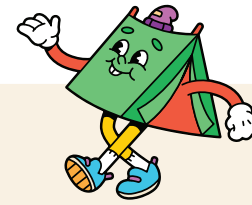
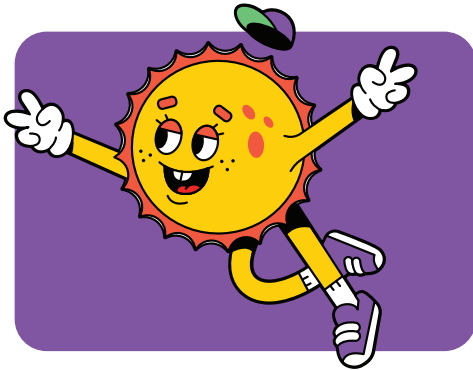
Live in peace with one another.

It must have taken a lot of courage for Barnabas to stand up to the other believers who didn't want to let Saul be a part of their group. It's possible they would have kicked Barnabas out too, after all. But Barnabas knew that Saul had changed and would need the support of his fellow believers, so he made the wise choice even when it was hard.

It's not going to be easy for you either, but just like Barnabas, you have God's power on your side.

Pray the prayer below, asking God for help to do the hard thing.

"Dear God, I want to live in peace with others, and I also want to have courage like Barnabas did to help others live in peace. I need Your help to be humble to live in peace with others. And I need Your help to be brave to help others live in peace too. Please give me that humility and courage that I need. In Jesus' Name, I pray. Amen."



Day 4

Why is living like Jesus so challenging?

Earlier this week, you read how Barnabas helped Saul live in peace with the other believers. . . If it wasn't for Barnabas, Saul might have been claiming those first two words of Romans 12:18 when it came to living in peace with everyone—"if possible."

There are times it truly does feel impossible to live in peace with someone. It might be a family member who is always annoying you, or a bully at school who likes to pick on you. . . during those times, it may take someone on the outside to help make the peace. Perhaps you can talk with your parent about ways you can keep the peace even when your sibling is being annoying. You might need to ask a grownup, like a teacher or bus driver, for help getting the bully to lay off.

Or maybe you see someone else who is trying to live in peace, but others are preventing that—like two friends who have had a misunderstanding. Maybe you can be the one to step in like Barnabas did for Saul!

Look for a way to use your voice today to **live in peace with one another**.

Day 5

What does it mean to live in peace?

When it comes to living in peace, there are peacekeepers and peacemakers. Sometimes simply "keeping" the peace—maybe by not speaking up when someone is hurting or by going along with what your friends want even though you know it isn't the wise choice—isn't REALLY living in peace.

But being a peacemaker is a different story. If you're a peacemaker, you don't just keep quiet so you won't upset someone. Instead, you use the wisdom you asked God to give you to actively make peace with—and among—others.

If Barnabas had been a peacekeeper, he might have told Saul he should just lay low and not try to be friends with the other believers or they'd get upset. Instead, he was a peacemaker—helping the believers see that Saul had really changed!

Write the word **PEACEMAKER** somewhere you will see it every day—maybe with a dry erase marker on your bathroom mirror or a sticky note on your bedroom door, or make it the lockscreen on your device. When you see it, remember that living in peace means **MAKING** peace, not just keeping it.