

I. Department Level: Juniors

II. Unit 2: Lesson 7: Peacemakers and Blessed

III. Lesson Concept: Christians need to make peace.

IV. Instructional Objectives:

A. The child will recite from memory the seventh Beatitude from memory with no more than two helps.

B. The child will explain the seventh Beatitude.

C. The child will give a personal example of application of each of the last four Beatitudes.

V. Materials:

None

VI. Opening Activities:

A. I've Got Peace Like a River

B. Cool, Calm, and Collected

C. Wonderful Peace

VII. Memory Verse Activity:

The teacher will instruct the children to open their Bibles to the reference (Matthew 5:8). The teacher will read the verse aloud once and then aloud again with the children. The teacher will define the word peacemaker. The student will read the verse from index cards in a pocket chart. The words will then be scattered around the room. The students will be timed as they try to gather all the hidden words and arrange them in the correct verse order. The students will read the verse that they have arranged. The teacher will apply and explain the meaning of the verse. The students will read the verse again in unison.

## VIII. Sequence of Activities:

### A. Activate Prior Knowledge:

How many of you have ever been mistreated? Has anyone ever taken something from you to start a fight or said a mean word to get you angry? God gives all of us people in our lives that make it hard to respond Biblically. God's Word says that if you are a child of God, you are or should be a peacemaker. A peacemaker can be described as anyone that attempts to stop fights amongst himself and another person by allowing the other person to mistreat him, or by stopping a fight between two other students. Both of these can be hard to do, but with the Lord's help we can be like Esther who stuck up for her people and saved them, even when she was faced with possible consequences for doing so.

### B. Instruction

I. King Ahasuerus was convinced by Haaman to make a decree to kill the Jewish people.

A. King Ahasuerus had killed his previous wife and had desired to marry Esther.

B. Esther was a Jew.

II. Esther was told by her Uncle Mordecai that she needed to go to the king and request that the Jews be saved.

A. This was dangerous because the King had the power to kill any unwanted visitors.

B. Esther had to put other first to make peace.

III. Esther bravely went to King Ahasuerus to ask if the Jews could be saved.

A. She went in uninvited, trusting that God would take care of her.

B. She planned a banquet in which to ask the King this question.

C. She found favor with the king when she asked.

IV. The King Ahasuerus accepted her request and the Israelites were saved.

A. Ahasuerus realize that Esther's Uncle Mordecai was the one who had helped save King Ahasuerus' life, not Mordecai.

B. Mordecai was rewarded, and Haaman was hung.

C. The Jews were saved.

V. God honored Esther's courage in attempting to make peace for her people.

A. Esther saved her people by her courage.

B. God wants you to do what you can to make peace with others even if it is hard.

C. Lesson Importance and Application:

You can make peace with others by turning the other cheek when people wrong you, by trying to get people to get along with each other, or by standing up for those that need help, even if it makes your life more difficult. When you make peace with others, God will honor you by making you His child and by blessing you.

D. Lesson Closure:

The children will be asked "Who Am I?" questions and must try to decide who the person is from the story based on the description given.

1. "I tried to save the King's life, and was not rewarded for it, yet I remained faithful.

Who am I?" -Mordecai

2. "I married Vashti and Esther and made a decree, which I eventually got rid of, to kill the Jews. Who am I?" -King Ahasuerus

3. "I bravely tried to save my people by planning a banquet for the king, my husband.

Who am I?" -Esther

4. "I tried to have the Jews killed, but instead was killed on the gallows that I made.

Who am I?" -Haaman

E. Application Activity:

The children will role play a situation in which they can try to make peace. They will be offered examples if needed (i.e. stopping a fight, sticking up for the bullied, turning the other cheek when wronged, telling someone when they are doing wrong).

F. Evaluation:

1. The child will recite from memory the seventh Beatitude from memory with no more than two helps.
2. The child will explain the seventh Beatitude.
3. The child will give a personal example of application of each of the last four Beatitudes.