



# BEE THE HOPE ... AND SHARE THE PEACE



## WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BEE THE HOPE?

“And [Jesus’] name shall be the hope of the world.” (Matthew 12:21) God is our hope. No matter what happens, He is with us. God cares about us, His Spirit prays for us, and His Son Jesus came to show us that God will never leave us *no matter what*.

Not everyone knows that God is always with us. Sometimes people think that because they are sick, God doesn’t care about them. Sometimes people feel so lonely, they forget that God’s Spirit lives right inside them. Sometimes people are in so much pain, they don’t even want to think about God anymore.

### That’s exactly when we can **Bee the Hope!**

- We can send a card or letter to someone who is sick.
- We can smile and say hello to the people we see each day.
- We can hug a friend who is sad or having a bad day.
- We can play with someone who is all alone at the playground.



## THEN ... WE CAN SHARE THE PEACE!

“For a child is born to us, a son is given to us ... And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” (Isaiah 9:5)

Jesus is the Prince of Peace, and He calls each of us to be peacemakers. What does that mean?

- Peacemakers are **kind**.
- Peacemakers are **good listeners**.
- Peacemakers are **honest**.
- Peacemakers are **gentle**.
- Peacemakers are **patient**.
- Peacemakers are **good forgivers**.



## PERCY PUPPY'S PEACEMAKER STORY



One day, CJ Star and Neeley Joy were playing on a tire swing. Neeley Joy counted as she pushed CJ, “1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10. My turn!”

“No, Neeley, push me again!”

“That’s not fair, CJ, it’s *my* turn!” shouted Neeley.

“Come on, Neeley! Just a few more pushes. Then I’ll push you, I promise.”

“That’s not fair, CJ! I’m going home!”

CJ Star and Neeley Joy weren’t being good friends that day *or* good peacemakers.

Percy Puppy sprang into action. “How come two of my very best friends are fighting? Let’s try to be peacemakers instead.”

“OK,” CJ and Neeley said, “but how?”

“Peacemakers are kind, honest, gentle, patient, good listeners, and good forgivers,” said Percy. CJ, what would have been the kind thing to do after Neeley Joy pushed you?

“I should have thanked Neeley and let her take her turn,” answered CJ.

“And Neeley, how could you have been both honest with and kind to CJ?” Percy asked.

“I could have told CJ how I felt without shouting or walking away ... and now I can be a good peacemaker by telling CJ I’m sorry.”

“I’m sorry too, Neeley,” said CJ. “Now we’re both good peacemakers!”

“And two of my very best friends are good friends to each other again,” smiled Percy.

### LET’S PRAY

Dear Lord, thank you for sending Jesus, the *Prince of Peace*, so we could learn to be peacemakers for You. Teach us to be good listeners and good forgivers. Help us be honest and gentle, patient with each other and kind to one another. Let us love each other like you love us. In Jesus’ name, Amen.