

Lesson 8 / May 4, 2025

# Conflict Resolution

By RLD Editorial Team

for use as  
**STEP 1**

**Lesson 8****Focus:**

Do what you can to  
make peace with others.

**Lesson 8****Bible Basis:**

Genesis 32:1-33:17

**Lesson 8****Memory Verse:**

If it is possible, as far as it depends on you,  
live at peace with everyone.

—Romans 12:18

**ECHOES: Turn from evil and do good; seek  
peace and pursue it.**

—Psalm 34:14

**Students will learn about a major conflict happening in the world and consider conflict resolution.**

**Materials:**

Internet access

At this point in your life, you've probably learned a lot about getting along with others. Your parents remind you to be kind to your brothers and sisters, your teachers expect you to be kind and considerate toward your classmates, and your coaches have taught you about teamwork and cooperation. You've learned how to be a good friend and how to put others before yourself.

But you've probably experienced moments and situations when something happened, and those people you worked so hard to love and care for started to drive you crazy! Something happens, and instead of kindness, you feel frustration. Suddenly, you have conflict.

➤ **In your own words, how would you define conflict?** (Accept all reasonable responses.)

Conflicts can range from small disagreements with friends to wars and major disagreements between people groups and countries. Many of you may have heard of the conflict happening between Russia and Ukraine that began when Russia invaded Ukraine in 2022. Let's watch a video that explains more about why this conflict is happening.

Share the following video with your students [5:03; start at 0:09; stop at 1:52]:

Will the war in Ukraine ever end? One year since Russia invaded | CBC Kids News

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pz5ggW93Fis>

➤ **What did you learn from this video about the conflict happening between Russia and Ukraine?** (Accept all reasonable responses.)

➤ **In what ways do you think this conflict is affecting the people who live in both countries?** (Accept all reasonable responses.)

**The conflict between Russia and Ukraine has major impacts for lots of people. The people living in both countries are affected by war, violence, military attacks, and government decisions. Citizens' everyday lives and futures are impacted by the conflict happening between these two countries.**

➤ **Do you think there is a simple solution to this conflict? Why or why not?** (Accept all reasonable responses.)

**Because this conflict involves politics, power, and human lives, a resolution to this conflict will likely be very complex.**

**Although most conflicts we'll encounter will be on a much more personal level than this major one, we will face disagreements and relational difficulties throughout our lives. When we encounter these situations, we will have to decide how to handle them.**

➤ **Think about a conflict you've experienced recently. What made that conflict difficult? How did you work to find a solution to the conflict?** (Allow students to share from their own experiences.)

**Today we're going to look at a big conflict and how two brothers tried to resolve it.**

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

upper elementary



Lesson 8 / May 4, 2025

# Conflict Resolution

for use as  
**STEP 4** 

## Lesson 8 Focus:

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## Lesson 8 Bible Basis:

Genesis 32:1-33:17

## Lesson 8 Memory Verse:

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live at peace with everyone.

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## Materials:

- Internet access
- White paper (8 ½-inch squares; several per student)

If your class is meeting online, invite students to bring 8 1/2-inch squares of paper to class.

Prior to the lesson, you'll want to watch the "Origami Peace Dove" video and become familiar with the steps to create the origami dove (link below). The video can be played while students create their doves, stopping after each instruction so that no one gets left behind, but some students will benefit from seeing the steps in person.

Origami tutorial [3:31]:

Origami Peace Dove

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YajnsShr11A>

**Today, we saw two brothers work very hard to find peace after a conflict that affected their relationship for years. During the time that Jacob and Esau were apart, God worked in their hearts to help them see what they had done wrong and how their actions had hurt each other. In the same way that Jacob wrestled with God, we sometimes find ourselves wrestling with the reality of conflict and the effect it can have on our relationships with others.**

**Conflicts happen because we are sinful people who sometimes make choices that impact others in a hurtful way. Regardless of whether we are the cause of the conflict, or simply the person who is affected by someone else's actions, conflict is tough. Thankfully, we can follow the example of Jacob and Esau in working together to resolve our problems and find ways to heal relationships.**

**Resolving conflicts requires an effort to both make peace and then keep peace—we saw both of those ideas in our story today. After being apart for so many years, Jacob found a way to make peace with his brother; Esau responded by showing Jacob that he was more**

**than willing to accept and keep peace. They were both finally at a place where they could acknowledge what they had done wrong, recognize the hurt they had caused each other, and find peace in rebuilding their relationship as brothers.**

**One of the most popular symbols of peace is the white dove. Noah sent a dove out to see if the waters of the great flood had receded—and the dove returned with a leafy twig in its mouth to show Noah that the chaos of the flood had passed and that peace had returned to the world.**

Distribute supplies (or invite students to have them ready at home). Using the steps from the video, walk the students through the process of creating an origami dove [3:31]:

Origami peace dove

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YajnsShr11A>

Encourage students to find a place for their dove where it can be a reminder of peace, especially when they are faced with a conflict.

Close in prayer.

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