

Peace on Earth - Christmas Assembly 2025

[Full Video - BCM Christmas Assembly 'Peace on Earth'](#)

[Peace on Earth - Advent & Christmas Assembly 2025 - images version.pptx](#)

This advent and Christmas themed Assembly will be covering Peace on Earth – the promised peace that Jesus gives to his people and the importance of knowing inner calm amid the challenges that life poses. We encourage students to be peacemakers with people who are both similar and different to them, and to resolve situations of conflict in their everyday lives.

Bible verses it's based upon:

Luke 2:8-20. ' Peace and goodwill.'

Matthew 5: ' Blessed are the Peacemakers.'

Isaiah 9:7: 'Prince of Peace.'

RE Syllabus/Collective Worship Dispositions:

Caring for Others; Being Merciful and Forgiving; Creating Unity & Harmony; Being Loyal & Steadfast;

Three layers covered:

(U) We all have an inbuilt longing for peace in our world and communities and for a sense of true harmonious community. We can all play our part in bringing about more peaceful co-existence and relationships with those around us and in resolving conflict in a healthy way.

(T) God the Creator wants people to reflect his love in bringing peace to our world and resolving conflict.

(FS) Christians believe that God made it possible for humans to experience peace and reconciliation with Him through giving the gift of Jesus, the Son. This enables and empowers them to live in peace with fellow humans regardless of background. Jesus calls his followers to be peacemakers in our world in readiness for ultimate and lasting peace that will come upon Jesus' promised Second Advent.

British Values:- Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith.

Script to be used alongside accompanying Powerpoint:

(Slide) - Quotes. When students are entering the hall Display (title) Slide (Quotes).

(Slide) - Title slide. (When/before teacher is handing over to you)

SECTION A (7 min 30)

P1: Good morning/afternoon, I'm (NAME) **(Slide) - BCM logo** from Birmingham City Mission, a local charity that serves people in need alongside **(Slide) - churches** many local church partners across the city.

[NB. If Local Church partner is co-delivering say: 'including (NAME THE CHURCH PARTNER) from (NAME OF CHURCH)] who is joining me today.

[NB. If church is delivering solo they briefly mention BCM, mention the many local church partners, before mentioning their church in particular]

(Slide) We are in/coming into the season of Advent leading up to Christmas. Christmas is often known as the Season of 'Peace and Goodwill'.

Let's see this video about how Birmingham City Mission tries to bring some peace and goodwill to others... **(Click & click to play)**

VIDEO 1: Building Peace - BCM Care Centre & Peace Gardens (1 min 47)

Transcript of video 1:

Part 1:

A) Outside & inside the BCM Care Centre

Production: Outside Care Centre

I'm here outside Birmingham City Mission's Care Centre which offers support to homeless people.

Production: Inside Care Centre

The Care Centre is open most weekdays and more and more people are attending each week. It offers hot meals, advice, prayer, friendship and opportunities to learn skills. The clients value this service

B) Green screen? Or outside Care Centre still?

We have other projects serving people in need. We help:....

Older people through visiting them in their homes & care homes - running services and activities, Those struggling to make ends meet through our resource centre, food bank and charity shop, And children through their/our Christmas present project, Toylink, whereby we give out gifts to 3,000 children.

C) Outside Care Centre

Christmas is also a time when many people reflect on children affected by poverty and conflict around the world. It stirs that longing inside us for 'peace'.

Part 2: The Peace Gardens.

Just across the way from BCM's Care Centre is the Peace Gardens which is a monument to peace and a memorial to all those killed in armed conflict. The original church here was half demolished in the Blitz in 1940. The new structure hosts a set of twenty-one plaques with inspiring messages of peace from cities around the world and from the major religious faiths and from humanists.

As with this church, violence destroys lives, but when we work at peace we can build a new future.

Summary of video 1

(Click)

Birmingham City Mission tries to bring some peace and goodwill to others.

We serve homeless people, older people, we have a food bank, resource centre & charity shop and we serve children through giving out gifts.

Christmas is also a time when many people reflect on children affected by poverty & conflict around the world. It stirs that longing inside us for 'peace'.

Delivered in-person by Presenter

(Slide) Occasionally these messages of peace have been heard by nations, but often not.

We all long for a **peace that lasts** for good - and seeing the constant reality of war today only increases this desire. Let's see more in this video.... **(Click & click to play)**

VIDEO 2 (Peace among ourselves:- Part 1: Military War. / Part 2: local street violence) (Total = 3 min 30 sec)

Transcript of Video 2.

Part 1 (45 sec)

Each year, during Remembrance Season we reflect on the heroic sacrifices made by soldiers to defend our freedoms in the World Wars. I'm here at the Hall of Memory in Centenary Square. Memorial sites like this one remind us of the terrible cost of war. The last century was the most costly and deadly one ever known. Sadly, we haven't learnt. As we look around the world today it continues to be blighted by war and violence in so many places. Human life is devalued, disregarded, trampled on by people's relentless greed for power, land and wealth.

Part 2 (2 min 00 sec)

But, 'war' isn't only about military, armed conflict between or within nations.

You sometimes hear of families, streets, communities being 'at war'.

It can be when fights break out in school. This is often caused by people saying or posting disrespectful things about other people's family, or their ability, character, or appearance.

It's when people use dehumanising language about those who have different views to them, or try to silence them.

It may be where someone feels wronged or misunderstood or threatened, or where their reputation may have been tarnished by thoughtless, vicious comments in public or on social media.

Then there's the power of fear that keeps people trapped, afraid of losing face or appearing weak. Fear can become a prison that can push people towards aggression.

All these things can spark off feelings of bitterness and anger, and can instantly ignite into verbal or physical outbursts of violence in our communities. It may be over honour, it may be revenge, street politics or even inflated ego. Fighting based on misinformation and rumours that masquerade as truth.

And when people hold on to past hurts instead of letting go, bitterness builds up, and that bitterness can drive destructive reactions - people can suddenly react in ways they didn't expect - pulling out a knife on someone. This can have life changing consequences for all concerned. That's why we need to think

before reacting. To use strategies to cool the temperature, 'pour water' on the 'flame', as it were. to keep calm. This will help to end the cycle of violence and to restore peace.

Summary of Video 2

(Click)

Part 1

The last century was arguably the most costly and deadly one ever known. Sadly, we haven't learnt. As we look around the world today it continues to be blighted by war and violence in so many places. Human life is devalued, disregarded, trampled on.

Part 2

But... You sometimes hear of families, streets, communities being 'at war'.

It can be when fights break out in school...often caused by people saying or posting disrespectful, vicious things about others...

All these things can spark off feelings of bitterness and anger, and can instantly ignite into verbal or physical outbursts of violence in our communities...

...People can suddenly react in ways they didn't expect - pulling out a knife on someone. This can have life changing consequences for all concerned. That's why we need to think before reacting. To use strategies to....to keep calm. This will help to restore peace.

Delivered in-person by Presenter

(Slide - uncertainty and instability & fear) Some powerful and challenging words there. Looking at the world today, we undoubtedly live in difficult times – times of uncertainty and instability, where many people are afraid and may wonder what the future holds.

We long, not just for an absence of conflict, but for a deep sense of peace, stability and safety, both 'out there' in the world, but also 'in here', inside - because sometimes we can feel an inner anxiety, fear and stress.

We long for peace and rest inside our hearts and minds, as well as in our world. A true and lasting peace. But it can sometimes be hard to obtain. This next video will show us how Christmas relates to this theme.... **(Click & click to play)**

SECTION B [3 mins 00]

VIDEO 3 (How to find Lasting Peace - Jesus primary purpose in coming: Peace with God) (Total = 3 min 21 sec)

Transcript of Video 3.

The Bible says that the way to find lasting peace isn't through our own human efforts which are insufficient, but from somewhere outside of ourselves.

One of the titles given to Jesus is 'Prince of Peace.' The Bible tells us that He came to make true peace possible. You might think, well, there isn't much 'peace' in the world, though, is there?

The Bible says that Jesus' coming to earth wasn't primarily to bring peace in the world... *yet*. This is because humans have an even greater and more immediate need than this - it's to have peace *with God*. For the Bible tells us that people have all in some way turned their back on God the loving creator. They have ruined His good world and the lives of His creatures. This greed and selfishness has made God upset and rightly 'angry'. It's as if people have declared 'war' on God and his rightful rule over their lives, making themselves 'enemies' of Him.

Yet, for me the amazing thing is that God didn't react and declare 'war' back on his creatures. Instead, he wanted peace. The New Testament says that God the Father sent the most non-threatening thing imaginable, a baby - but not just any baby – an extraordinary baby, who is also in very nature God, God the Son, the Bible teaches, equal with God the Father. The Bible also says that this Son, Jesus, willingly volunteered to leave heaven's majesty and take on human form through the power of God the Holy Spirit, and to enter into the world he made.

Christians believe that, in a sense, the first Christmas 'present' was from God the Father. A wonderful gesture of 'peace and goodwill' to the world. It says in Luke's gospel that Mary 'gave birth to her firstborn son' and 'wrapped him in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger' - all wrapped up, like a gift from God the Father to the whole world, with a tag/label attached offering people peace with God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Summary of Video 3.

(Click)

One of the titles given to Jesus is 'Prince of Peace.' But, people might think, 'well, he hasn't brought much 'peace' to the world, though.'

The Bible says that Jesus' coming to earth wasn't primarily to bring peace in the world... yet. This is because humans have an even greater need than this - it's to have peace *with God*.

For the Bible tells us that people have all in some way turned their back on God the loving creator. They have ruined His good world and the lives of His creatures....It's as if people have declared 'war' on God... Yet, for me the amazing thing is that God didn't react and declare 'war' back on his creatures. Instead, the New Testament says that God the Father sent the most non-threatening thing imaginable, a baby – an extraordinary baby, who is also in very nature God, God the Son, the Bible teaches, equal with God the Father. The Bible also says that this Son, Jesus, willingly volunteered to take on human form, as a baby, through the power of God the Holy Spirit.

It says in Luke's gospel that Mary 'gave birth to her firstborn son' and 'wrapped him in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger' - all wrapped up, like a gift from God the Father to the whole world.....

Delivered in-person by Presenter (1 min 35)

(Click)

(Slide) The Bible says that Jesus would make this peace with God possible through something he would one day do. When as a man he would lay down his life on a cross and face the consequences of people's wrongs. He faced this so that people don't have to – if they are sorry for their wrongs and receive the risen Jesus they can be forgiven and be reconciled to Him as friends forever. The Bible says this brings a deep sense of inner peace which empowers Jesus' followers to show love and forgiveness to their neighbour, even to their 'enemies'. This calm response can help to resolve situations of conflict.

But, what about all the conflict that's still in the world? Will there ever be peace?

During Advent, Christians look forward to Jesus' future Second Advent, his Second Coming to Earth.

For the Bible says that the risen Jesus promised to one day return to earth - when he will right wrongs, judge evildoers and bring peace to his people. They will live forever in a perfect new creation where there will be no more conflict or suffering. The Old Testament predicts this moment, saying that nations will lay their weapons down: 'nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore' (in Micah 4:3).

SECTION C - Delivered in-person by Presenter) [2 mins 30]

P1: (Slide) In light of these things, Christians feel inspired to try to bring some peace and hope to their world now. And that's what so many seek to do – people of faith and of no faith - to be 'peacemakers'.

So, let's see how we can do this now. Here are **five points we can all take away from this** – whether we all celebrate Christmas or not.....

1. (Slide - Listen to people who are different to you with openness, curiosity and understanding)

Listen to people who are different to you with openness and curiosity. It's when people don't listen to others that the seeds of suspicion, division and even conflict can grow.

Think of a viewpoint you might not like? Are you basing your view upon actual facts about them, or not? Think, how can you better understand that viewpoint and where it's coming from?

2. (Slide - How might you be able to find inner peace and wellbeing?)

How might you be able to find inner peace? If you ever feel anxious about the present or future, where might you find peace to help with this?

P2.

3. (Slide – We can't control what goes on in the world...but focus on things you have some control over and on doing something positive)

We might not be able to control what goes on 'out there', but we can all impact our own 'worlds' 'here' for good.

Remember to focus on things that are solid and stable, things you have some control over. Focus on doing something positive - an interest, a hobby or helping others.

4. (Slide - How can you bring calm and peace to a situation of conflict)

Think about a situation of tension in your community, family or friendship group? How can you help bring these people together? Also, I wonder, is there anyone who you are in a form of conflict with? How can you go about making peace with them?

5. (Slide - When feeling wound up or angered how might you keep calm?)

Lastly, I wonder if you ever find yourself quickly and easily reacting to people who might annoy or disrespect you. Can you find ways of avoiding these situations perhaps and of keeping calm. Remind yourself of the consequences of reacting.

If you need support with any of these things talk to a trustworthy person.

P1: (Slide) I hope you have found this session helpful - remember lasting peace can be found. And let's be those bringers of 'Peace and Goodwill' this season and always.

(Slide of 5 points) for Reflection

Short reflection: 'I will leave these five points up for you to **reflect on** (think of one think you can put into practice today) as I hand back over to your teacher now. Thank you.'

Slightly longer reflection - **hold a moment (10-15 sec) of silence for quiet reflection**, thus: 'We're now going to have a few moments of quiet reflection. To consider these points again which are on the screen, and think of how we might put them into practice in our lives starting today. Thank you.'

(Optional additional extra:- reflective prayer, where the school practices 'Collective Worship' and **where you feel comfortable**): 'Those of you of faith *may* want to silently ask God to help you in doing these things. But others here may wish to reflect on what you've heard today.... Thank you.]

TOTAL = 13 mins