

Peace Education Summary – Summer of Peace (July 2024)

Location: Stonecrest, GA

Dates: July 5–26, 2024

Participants: 20 Elementary, Middle and High School students

Program: Summer of Peace – Lessons 1–10

Lesson Titles

1. Original State of All Creation
2. A Reason for All Creation Living in Harmony
3. What Broke Peace in the World of Humankind
4. The Restoration of Order and Relation in the Human World
5. Being Grateful for Kindness and Grace
6. Being Considerate of the Benefit of Others
7. A Sacrifice without Compensation
8. Understanding and Forgiving Others
9. Respect for Elders
10. Efforts toward Preservation of Heritage

July 5 – Lessons 1–2

- Students explored the original state of creation and the reason all life is meant to live in harmony.
- Participated in a beat activity to reflect on cooperation and unity.
- Engaged discussion on influence and value, especially in relation to social media and peer leadership.

July 13 – Lessons 3–4

- Reflected on the causes of broken peace and how to restore order and healthy relationships in the human world.
- Participated in the Dream Town activity, imagining peaceful communities.
- Received an encouraging surprise message from the National President of 100 Black Men.

July 19 – Lessons 5–8

- Focused on gratitude, consideration, sacrifice, and forgiveness through interactive stations.
- Gratitude Station:
 - Reflections included appreciation for parents, teachers, and the gift of life. Some students initially struggled with how to show gratitude toward siblings.
- Forgiveness Station:
 - One student forgave an old friend after expressing lingering anger.
 - Others acknowledged forgiveness was difficult but necessary.
 - A pair of 8th graders shared a reconciliation story after a conflict.
- Sacrifice Station:
 - Discussions emphasized parental sacrifice and love.

- Students practiced delayed gratification through a snack challenge.

July 26 – Lessons 9–10

- Emphasized respecting elders and preserving cultural heritage.
- One student highlighted the effectiveness of using celebrities and hip-hop references to make the lessons relatable.
- Reflections included:
 - Encouraged peer conflict resolution and understanding within families.
 - Spoke about the importance of respecting others and seeking help when needed.

Program Outcomes

- Students gained practical insights on peace, community, and character-building values.
- Interactive and relatable methods helped deepen engagement.
- Themes reinforced across lessons included: Gratitude, Forgiveness, Sacrifice, Respect, Consideration, Heritage, and Harmony.
- Guest appearances and hands-on activities contributed to memorable learning experiences.