

Use “The Scene” to introduce “How to Resolve Conflict” the Young Teen Sunday school lesson for January 14, 2018. The lesson is found on page 43 of *Young Teen Teacher* by Standard Publishing.



the **SCENE**

Viewing the latest news through the lens of Scripture

Cold relations between South and North Korea this past week took a step toward warming up as leaders from the two nations met together.

It’s fitting that they were brought together largely over talks to do with the Olympic Games, the modern form of which were started in 1896 as a way to promote peace and unity in the international community. In their talks this past Tuesday, the leaders agreed that North Korea would send a delegation to the Games, which are to be held in Pyeongchang, South Korea, beginning next month. They also agreed to opening up a line of communication between the countries and possibly considering some family reunions for those families affected when Korea was split into two nations.

It’s not certain what sporting events North Korea will be competing in, other than pairs ice skating. But what might make more of a splash than their athletes is their fan club. It’s been reported that North Korea is planning on sending a delegation of fans and possibly a cheerleading squad or performance art group. With recent nuclear threats coming out of North Korea, and past terrorist and cyber-terrorist attacks, the organizers of this year’s winter games are breathing a sigh of relief now that North Korea’s own people will be in the Olympic tent.

And this might just be the moment when cheerleaders really do save the world.

As students arrive, give each of them a copy of the article. Then discuss in this way:

What do you think about North Korea being allowed to participate in the Olympic Games? Do you think it’s a good idea? Explain your answer.

This article provides an example of sports playing an active role in building peace in a tense situation. Have you ever experienced a time when sports helped bring enemies or groups in conflict together? What happened?

What do you think it is about sporting events that can sometimes help people join together and bring peace, even when there are fans supporting opposing teams?

People have developed many different ways of handling conflict. Today, we’ll look at God’s method for us to deal with conflicts.