Peace in a Norld of Conflict

Prophecy of Peace

Jesus would be the _____ of <u>Peace</u>!

(Isaiah 9:6)

Promise of Peace

Jesus _____ us His peace!

(John 14:27)

Plea for Peace

_____ brings <u>peace</u>!

(Philippians 4:6-7)

Presence of Peace

_____ is our <u>peace</u>!

(Ephesians 2:13-15)





The Word of God

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

- 2 The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.
- 6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of <u>Peace</u>.
- 7 Of the increase of his government and of <u>peace</u> there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

<u>John 14:27</u>

Peace I leave with you; my <u>peace</u> I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

Philippians 4:6–7

- 6 do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.
- 7 And the <u>peace</u> of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 2:13–15

- 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.
- 14 For he himself is our <u>peace</u>, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility
- 15 by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making <u>peace</u>,

Dan Eckley 11/28/2021

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Open: What are some typical patterns or methods for dealing with conflict? What tends to be your typical approach to dealing with conflict?

Read & Discuss: John 14:27

- 1. What are some of the factors that cause our hearts to "be troubled"? Outside of Christ, what are ways people attempt to find or experience peace?
- 2. Jesus said, "My peace I give to you." What do you think Jesus means when He says, "my peace"? How is Jesus' peace different from the world's peace?

Read & Discuss: Philippians 4:6-7

- 3. Paul does not promise God will do exactly what we ask when we pray, though he does say we should expect peace as we make our requests known to God (v. 7). From your own experience, how does prayer lead to peace? What role does "thanksgiving" have in experiencing peace?
- 4. What makes the peace God gives a peace "which surpasses all understanding" (v. 7)? What is the potential danger to our "hearts and minds" when we lack peace? How does God's peace guard our "hearts and minds"?

Read & Discuss: Ephesians 2:13-15

- 5. Paul reminds us that prior to knowing Christ, we lacked peace with Him (v. 13). When sharing the Gospel how would you explain why, without Christ, we lack peace with God? How would you explain the way Christ brings peace between us and God?
- 6. Within the Ephesian church, Christ brought about unity where there had previously been division. How should this work of Christ impact potential division within our church? In what way does the Gospel serve as a means of repairing hostility between you and others?
- **Apply:** Are there any areas of your life or any relationships with others where you lack peace? How can you apply Gospel principles to restore God-honoring peace?
- **Pray:** Read Isaiah 9:2,6-7. Praise God for the peace that Jesus brings. Pray that many in our community would hear of this peace from members of our church this Christmas Season.

John 14:27

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Philippians 4:6-7

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