

DIVE DEEPER Sermon Discussion Guide

Fruit of the Spirit part 3: PEACE

1. What part of the text or message had the greatest impact on you? Where were you most encouraged, intrigued, or challenged?
2. Read and reflect on Jesus' promises in John 14:27 and 16:33. Both Jesus and the world offer a form of peace. How have you experienced each of these and what is different between them?
3. Matthew 5:9 says, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." What's the difference between a peacemaker and a peacekeeper? Which one do you tend to be and why?
4. Explain this statement: "Peace is not the absence of going through the storms of life. Peace is knowing that Jesus is right there with you every step of the way." Share an example of when you experienced this in your own life.
5. 2 Chronicles 15:12 says, "They entered into a covenant to seek the LORD, the God of their fathers, with all their heart and soul." Jeremiah 29:13, says, "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart." What does it practically mean to seek God and what does it have to do with peace?
6. Slowly read Philippians 4:6-7. What are the commands in this verse? What are results of keeping those commands? Which of those commands is most difficult for you and why?
7. To what extent would you say the opening words in Colossians 3:15 are an accurate reflection of your own heart at this time in your life?
8. Read Romans 5:1 and explain this statement: "Peace with God enables us to have the peace of God." How do you have peace with God?
9. Close with Paul's benediction from 2 Corinthians 13:11, "Dear brothers and sisters, I close my letter with these last words: Be joyful. Grow to maturity. Encourage each other. Live in harmony and peace. Then the God of love and peace will be with you." If God had written this only for *you*, which words or phrases do you think He would have underlined? Explain.

Additional Resources:

- Video: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/shalom-peace/> (only 3:49 in length)
- Book: "Anxious for Nothing: Finding Calm in a Chaotic World" by Max Lucado
- Blog: <https://www.christianitytoday.com/scot-mcknight/2020/june/called-to-peace.html>