



WEEK 2: PEACE

Opening Question:

What scene can you pull up in your mind that slows your breath and relaxes your muscles, or that brings feelings of warmth and love?

Peace. At this time of year, peace can certainly seem elusive. Even outside of the holiday season, peace can be hard to come by, whether it be due to a busy season of life, difficult family situations, or internal turmoil. Those without peace know that peace truly is a gift, a gift that Jesus tells us he gives to those who follow Him. Let's look at what the peace of Christ looks like this week.

Peace in Reconciliation – Read: Luke 2:14, Isaiah 9:6, Romans 5:1-5

If Jesus brings peace, from where did the conflict stem? Who is it between?

Peace in Struggle – Read: John 14:26-27

As Jesus is preparing His disciples for His physical departure, what two things does Jesus tell them he will leave with them?

What two commands accompany these gifts?



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Read: John 16:33

According to this passage, what is guaranteed in this life?

How can we have peace in the midst of this?

Considering what is about to happen immediately after in John 18-19, how does Jesus model peace in adversity in these last moments with His disciples?

Peace in Relationships – Read: Romans 12:9-21, Hebrews 12:14

Once we have tasted and received the peace of Christ, what then are we to do with it?

How should that peace play out in our lives on a daily basis?

Prayer:

Father, we thank you for Jesus, who you sent to earth to become our Peace. Thank you that He reconciles us to you, satisfying your justice and fulfilling your law, that He gives us His power and strength so we can have peace in our struggles, and that He reconciles us in community with each other, giving us patience and grace to live in peace with those around us. In the name of Jesus, amen.

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy.

-St. Francis of Assisi -

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