

Discussion Guide

Peace: wk3 Peace with Others, Pt. 1

June 18, 2023



Big Idea

We can, and are to, pursue peace with others.



Icebreaker

Since we are near Father's Day, we all likely know what the essence of a "Dad" joke is. But in case you don't, it is basically an unoriginal or predictable joke. Perhaps even a pun. One when you hear it, your initial thought may be something like, "How corny!". Anyone got a dad type joke to share?



Discussion Questions

1. Read the catalyst verse for the Peace Sermon Series, Romans 12:18. Remind one another what the specific titles & directions of our peace sermons were the two prior weeks (Wk1: Peace with G__ & Wk2: Peace with O_____). This week's specific direction is Peace with Others. Do you think the order in which we approached this series was intentional & why is that intentionality important?
2. Part of the logic behind our pursuit of being at peace with others is that we are made for community. How does the fact that God exists as Father, Son, & Holy Spirit demonstrate to us the fact that we are made for community? How did Jesus demonstrate this in how He went about His earthly ministry (modeling a godly life to us)? How important is community to you & is it generally "easy" or "difficult" for you & why? Have you grown in your intentionality to be in community as you have matured in Christ & if so what has that experience been like for you?
3. How important, & in what ways is it important, to our witness to & for Christ in front of unbelievers that we get along with one another as Christians? What will they think of us, and even perhaps call us, if we do not demonstrate this? Is there a step you could take soon to grow in this area (i.e. forgive a fellow Christian; have a needed healthy discussion with a fellow Christian to better understand them & perhaps ways they have confused or offended you, etc.)?
4. Read Romans 12:9-16. Now re-read it, instruction-by-instruction, pausing after each to think on & discuss with one another either: what this either means in your own words, looks like in real-life, or share your own real-life opportunities for growth in.
5. What 2 instructions from Romans 12:9-16 jumped out at you as top areas on which you could exert some effort towards growing in? What is your plan to do so? What your role in this growth? What is the role of the Holy Spirit in this growth? When will you act & what is your first step?



Concluding Question

Week 1 of this series (Peace with God) pointed out that God has done all that was needed for us to have peace with Him by sending His Son, Jesus, to die as the sacrifice for our sins. And that if we receive this grace gift that we have peace with God. Week 2 of this series (Peace with Ourselves) pointed out that a continuation of what God did for us through Christ result in there being no condemnation for us. This acts as the reason & catalyst as to why & how we can comfortably be at peace with ourselves. When it comes with Peace with Others, the current week of the series, what we covered from the Bible was largely stuff we can pursue (in the power of the Holy Spirit). Why doesn't God just do everything for us?



Application

1. What do you think the Holy Spirit may be saying to you through this sermon and our discussion?
2. What is something God wants you to do now?
3. Is there a way we can help each other apply what God is showing us?



Prayer Pray for Godly fatherhood to prevail and for fathers!