

Discussion Guide

Series: Advent: Light of the World, Wk2: Peace

December 7, 2025



Big Idea

While we wait for the return of our Prince of peace, we follow Jesus into a life of peacemaking.



Icebreaker

Do you have a favorite Christmas tree ornament or decoration, what is it & why is it your favorite...is there a “story” behind it?



Discussion Questions

1. Read Isaiah 2:1-5. What part of Isaiah’s vision of future peace stands out most to you, and why? How does the imagery of swords becoming plowshares shape your understanding of Jesus as the Prince of Peace?
2. The sermon described Jesus’ work of reconciliation as “costly.” In what ways is this true (try to stretch your thinking and be more exhaustive than the “easy” answers). In what ways have you experienced the cost of peacemaking in your own life? How does Jesus’ sacrifice reshape how we approach the hard work of reconciliation? Read Colossians 1:19-20. What comes to mind/how are you moved through the reading of this passage?
3. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-20. Paul says we are “Christ’s ambassadors” with a ministry of reconciliation. What does it look like for ordinary Christians to live as *agents of reconciliation* in their homes? Workplaces? Communities? Other ideas/areas of life?
4. The sermon emphasized that peace begins within the Body of Christ. What practices help a church maintain unity and peace? How can we avoid letting hurt or disagreement fester in ways that divide?
5. The sermon invited us to ask ourselves, “*Am I a person of peace?*” How would you answer that overall & why? What influences or situations in your life negatively impact this and what could be done to effectively deal with such things?



Concluding Question

Recite slowly together this, the Prayer of St. Francis: “*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace: where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O divine master, grant that I might seek not so much to be consoled, as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned. And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.*” Share with one another a portion, or “stanza” of this prayer that stands out to you more than another along with why you feel it does. Does it spark in you the need to take some kind of action? If so, what?



Prayer

God’s word tells us this in Matthew 5:9 (NIV): *Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.* Spend time in prayer that you and the Church overall, would grow in being peacemakers.