

Peace - Week 1

Scripture:

Isaiah 9:6

Also

Luke 2:13-14; John 14:27; 2 Corinthians 5:18; Colossians 3:15; Romans 8:28; Ephesians 2:14-16

Discussion Questions

What has challenged you, changed you or confused you from this week's sermon or the Scripture passages?

- 1. What kinds of events/circumstances present opportunities for people to lose their peace? What kinds of events/circumstances tend to spur you towards letting go of your peace? For Example:**
 - **Larger, more national/global events, or local, personalized events?**
 - **Things related more to people or to your circumstances?**
 - **Things in or outside of your household?**
 - **Things related to family? Work? Church?**
- 2. How do these kinds of things impact you?**
 - When things are out of control around us.
 - When people let us down or destructive and won't change.
 - When the unexpected, unexplainable and irreversible happens, we lose our peace.
- 3. In the sermon, the first place mentioned to get peace was from 2 Corinthians 5:18, about peace with God. From a Biblical viewpoint, how is peace with God an essential first step in experiencing peace?**
 - **Do you have that peace?**
 - **If not, do you want it?**
 - **What are you doing to move towards it?**
- 4. Following that, the idea of peace "within" was discussed.**
 - **On a scale of 1-10, how would you rate your peace within? Why?**
 - **How do you see the idea of peace within intersecting with mental health?**
 - **Where does Scripture give insight about mental health, well-being and wholeness?**
- 5. Finally, the idea of peace with others was examined.**
 - **Where do you see a need for peace in:**
 - **Your family/friends/immediate circle?**
 - **The world around us?**

- Read Matthew 5:9. **What practical step(s) can you take this week to be a peacemaker with those around you?**

God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference.