

Peacemakers

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God. Matthew 5:9

Four areas where Christians should actively pursue peace.

1. We must have peace with _____.

The way of peace they do not know; there is no justice in their paths. They have turned them into crooked roads; no one who walks in them will know peace. Isaiah 59:8

What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask God. James 4:1-2

Three wars raging continuously in our world

1. People are at war with each other
2. People are at war with themselves
3. People are at war in rebellion against _____

For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. Colossians 1:19-20

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, Romans 5:1

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" John 11:25-26

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28

The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:5-7

*Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. **Colossians 3:15***

2. We have a _____ to live at peace with other people. *Four areas where Christians should actively pursue peace.*

*Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. **Romans 12:17-18***

*“Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to turn “ ‘a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law—a man’s enemies will be the members of his own household.’ **Matthew 10:34-36***

*But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness. **James 3:17-18***

*Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus. At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God. **Acts 9:19-20***

*All those who heard him were astonished and asked, “Isn’t he the man who raised havoc in Jerusalem among those who call on this name? And hasn’t he come here to take them as prisoners to the chief priests?” **Acts 9:21***

*Yet Saul grew more and more powerful and baffled the Jews living in Damascus by proving that Jesus is the Christ. **Acts 9:22***

After many days had gone by, the Jews conspired to kill him, but Saul learned of their plan. Day and night they kept close watch on the city gates in order to kill him.

*But his followers took him by night and lowered him in a basket through an opening in the wall. **Acts 9:23-25***

*When he came to Jerusalem, he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he really was a disciple. **Acts 9:26***

*But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles. He told them how Saul on his journey had seen the Lord and that the Lord had spoken to him, and how in Damascus he had preached fearlessly in the name of Jesus. **Acts 9:27***

So Saul stayed with them and moved about freely in Jerusalem, speaking boldly in the name of the Lord. Acts 9:28

When the brothers learned of this, they took him down to Caesarea and sent him off to Tarsus. Acts 9:29

Then the church throughout Judea, Galilee and Samaria enjoyed a time of peace. It was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it grew in numbers, living in the fear of the Lord. Acts 9:30

Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification. Romans 14:19

Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. Romans 12:16

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. Romans 12:14-17

“If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. Matthew 18:15

When a man’s ways are pleasing to the Lord, he makes even his enemies live at peace with him. Proverbs 16:7

For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. Ephesians 2:15-16

For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. 1 Corinthians 12:13

3. We promote peace in our country through _____.

Four areas where Christians should actively pursue peace.

I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. 1 Timothy 2:1-2

Perhaps the most effective way for us to minister to the souls

and to promote peace with our _____ is to pray.

How to promote peace in our culture through prayer

1. Pray with a fresh awareness of God.
2. Pray with an honest assessment of _____.
3. Pray with a genuine interest in others.

He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.” Jeremiah 29:7

4. Pray with an enthusiastic _____ for the future, pray with faith.

if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7:14

4. Bringing another _____ to experience peace with God. *Four areas where Christians should actively pursue peace.*

I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent. Luke 15:7

Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness. James 3:18

Key: God, God, responsibility, prayer, neighbors, yourself, expectation, person