

October 21, 2018

Speaker: Tim McCardel

Message Series: Finding... Joy

Today's Message: Happiness Thru Peacemaking

Hebrews 12:14 *"Pursue peace with all people and holiness without which no one will see the Lord."*

Psalms 31:14 *"Turn away from evil and do good, seek peace and pursue it."*

Matthew 5:9 *"Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God."*

* "The followers of Jesus... maintain fellowship where others would break it off. They _____ all self-assertion and quietly suffer in the face of hatred and wrong. In so doing they overcome evil with good and establish the peace of God in a world of war and hate." ~Bonhoeffer

1. The _____ For Peace

Truth: Millions would give anything to find peace—deep, inward _____ peace. Escaping Reality... Make More Money... New Friends... Escape Spouse... More Knowledge

Simple Fact: There can be _____ peace in your world until we have peace with God.

Ephesians 2:13, 14 *"But now in Christ Jesus you who were once far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He Himself is our peace."*

2. The _____ To Peace

1) **Stop resisting** God, quit pushing Him away

John 14:27

2) **Start Surrendering** to His love

2 Chronicles 30:8 *"Do not be stubborn... submit yourselves to the Lord... Serve the Lord your God so that His fierce anger will turn away..."*

Romans 5:1 *"Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God (**Literally:** "peace facing God") because of what Christ our Lord has done for us."*

To Have Both: Peace with God and the Peace of God... Are Not _____

3. Becoming A Peacemaker

* Being Humbled and Hungry for God's Glory—true followers of Christ take _____:
2 Corinthians 5:8

* "God—who reconciled us to Himself thru Christ... gave us the ministry of reconciliation."

1) **We are to be** Christ-like making peace—_____ when people around us crash.

2) **In our homes**, with our spouses and children: 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 *"Love is patient and kind... not jealous or boastful... not arrogant or rude... believes the best... endures all things."*

3) **Serous Christ-Followers** are to be “peacemakers” in our community: Philippians 2:15 “*Live clean, innocent lives as children of God, shining like bright lights in a world full of crooked and perverse people.*”

* **Be Aware:** This means God’s courage in us to take RISKS.

4. The Reward of Peacemaking

* **Peacemakers:** “shall be called the children of God” - Matthew 5:9

* **As God’s Children:** we are promised God’s eternal blessings in His eternal Kingdom

* John 14:27

Hebrews 6:10 “*For God is not unjust. He will not forget how hard you have worked for Him and how you have shown your love for Him by caring for other believers...*”