



“Peacemakers”

John 20:21, Luke 10:5-6, Matthew 5:9

John 20:21

Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.”

Luke 10:5-6

“When you enter a house, first say, ‘Peace to this house.’ If someone who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them.

What is “peace”?

When a Jew said “shalom” they were wishing on another the full presence, peace, and prosperity of all the blessedness of God.

Matthew 5:9

*Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.*

To Do

The word "make" in the term “peacemakers” comes from the Greek verb that means “to do” or “to make.” It mandates action and initiative. Peace must be made.

Keeping vs. Making

Peace keeping is living not to lose. Peace making is living to gain.

Larry Crab Quote

"Don't live to avoid what you most fear. Live to gain what you most want."

As Christ Followers

We are sent with peace to see relationships restored around us.

Matthew 5:39-41

If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also. And if anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, hand over your coat as well. If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles.

Thoughts on Matthew 5:39-41

This passage in Matthew gives us a picture of what it would look like to stay open and invitational to those around us. It also communicates some of our reservations to it as well.

“Turn your cheek” - Hurt

“Give your shirt” - Fear

“Go the extra mile” - Too Busy.

It may be us

Gentle intruding. Most people don't think the relational problems they are facing are themselves.

Matthew 5:23-24

“Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, 24 leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

Initiate like Jesus

You get to initiate like Jesus. When we were hostile to God, it was God who came to us.

2 Corinthians 13:11

Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you.

James 3:18-

Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.

Luke 19:8-9 -

But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, “Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.” Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house.

Love initiates

Love moves toward people, even if that means confrontation. It doesn't leave them alone in their suffering or in their selfishness. As a peacemaker sows peace a harvest of righteousness comes.

Romans 12:18

“If possible, on your part, live at peace with everyone.”

Discussion Questions

- What did God say to you during our Sunday gathering?
- Share thoughts about that idea that "peace" has to be made. It doesn't just happen.

- What does the Crabb quote mean to you? *"Don't live to avoid what you most fear. Live to gain what you most want."*
- Who is the person you need to move towards for relational wellbeing to be experienced? What is your greatest reservation about moving towards them?
- Have you ever been part of a harvest of righteousness because of someone who made peace?