



- A New Normal is a **required** new behavior.
- It's **difficult** to allow someone else to establish a new behavior for our lives.

The progression of emotions:

- We experience **shock**.
- We feel **sorrow**.

He (*Jesus*) was despised and rejected— a man of sorrows, acquainted with deepest grief... Isaiah 53:3 (NLT)

Hear my cry, O God; Attend to my prayer. From the end of the earth I will cry to You, When my heart is overwhelmed; Lead me to the rock that is higher than I. Psalm 61:1-2 (NIV)

- We begin to **struggle**.

27 I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid. John 14:27 (NLT)

- Our sin issue is a **control** issue.

² So those who refuse to obey the laws of the land are refusing to obey God, and punishment will follow. Romans 13:2 (TLB)

- **Faith** is our willingness to **surrender** to God.

When we surrender to God:

- We experience peace **with** God and the peace **of** God.

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

27 I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid. John 14:27 (NLT)

- We're given the gift of God's **Spirit**.

11 The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you... Romans 8:11 (NLT)

22 But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control... Galatians 5:22-23 (NLT)

- To experience God's peace, we have to get out of **His way**.

23 ..."If you want to come with me, you must forget yourself, take up your cross every day, and follow me. Luke 9:23 (GNT)

An application step to a New Normal of Peace:

- Don't worry about **anything**, instead, bring God into **everything**.

Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6-7 (NLT)

- Worry is creating a scenario in the future without God's **activity**.

7 Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. 1 Peter 5:7 (NIV)

...His peace will guard your hearts and minds ... Philippians 4:7 (NLT)



TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

Questions for Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?
- How are you personally doing with being quarantined? Are you experiencing any underlying frustrations from the regulations the government has put in place?
- Do you find that your emotions are unstable due to this pandemic? Explain.
- Have you experienced the progression of emotions mentioned in the Talk?
- Do you think that our underlying frustrations from this pandemic are a by-product of our lack of control?
- How is our sin issue a control issue? When you read Romans 13:1-5 what does it say to you?
- Do you find it difficult to surrender to God's authority? Does God's authority make you frustrated? If we are frustrated with God's authority what does that say about us?
- How does God's Spirit help us deal with this frustration within us?
- How are we suppose to surrender to God daily? What does that mean to you?
- How can we choose not to worry about anything?
- What does it mean to bring God into everything?
- When you read Galatians 5:22-23, do you sense God's presence? Do you believe we can have that same presence of God in our lives when we deal with the authority of the government ?

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