



I'm telling you, once and for all, that unless you return to square one and start over like children, you're not even going to get a look at the kingdom, let alone get in. Whoever becomes simple and elemental again, like this child, will rank high in God's kingdom. What's more, when you receive the childlike on my account, it's the same as receiving me. Matthew 18:3-5 (MSG)

- It's in the simple life of **trusting** God that we experience the wonder of God.

I pray that the God who gives hope will fill you with much joy and peace while you trust in him... Romans 15:13 (NCV)

- The wonder of God allows us to live in the **moment**, not the **past**.

#### The challenge we face:

- If we don't live with the wonder of God we can't know the **peace** of God.
- Peace in life comes from the presence of **Jesus** in our life.

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts... Collisions 3:15 (NIV)

Let the peace that Christ gives control your thinking... Collisions 3:15 (NCV)

13 Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God and saying, "Glory to God in highest heaven, and **peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased.**" Luke 2:10-14

...And he will be their peace. Micah 5:5

#### An important message for us to understand:

- Jesus came to enter our **chaos** and establish **peace**.

#### Peace means a couple of things:

Peace is not just the **absence** of something, but also the **presence** of something better.

...And he will be their peace. Micah 5:4-5

- The greater the **chaos** the more **alone** we feel.

23 "The virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they will name him Immanuel," which means "God is with us." Matthew 1:23 (GWT)

#### Real Peace is experienced:

- When we **surrender** ourselves to **Christ**.

This is the message of Good News ...that there is peace with God through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.

Acts 10:36

#### The peace you can experience this Christmas...

- Peace with **God**.

19 ...God was in Christ making peace between the world and himself, not putting their sins to their account, and having given to us the preaching of this **news of peace**. 2 Corinthians 5:19 (BBE)

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)

- Peace with **Yourself**.

15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts... Colossians 3:15 (NIV)

5 Only God gives inward peace, and I depend on him. Psalm 62:5

- Peace with **Others**.

16 ...Christ reconciled both groups to God by means of his death on the cross, and our hostility toward each other was put to death." Ephesians 2:16 (NLT)

You can't **give** what you don't **possess**.

#### To experience God's peace:

- Accept God's **gift** to you.

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

- Don't live in the **past**.

If we confess our sins, he [God] is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9 (NIV)

- Let go of **resentment**.

So I want men everywhere to pray with holy hands lifted up to God, free from sin and anger and resentment. 1 Timothy 2:8

- Don't waste time on what you can't **change**.

If we confess our sins, he [God] is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9 (NIV)

People who conceal their sins will not prosper, but if they confess and turn from them, they will receive mercy. Proverbs 28:13 (NLT)

- Put your **trust** in the one that is **bigger** than yourself.

I find rest in God; only He can save me. He is my rock and my salvation. He is my defender; I will not be defeated. Psalms 62:1-2 (NCV)

"For to us a child is born, ... And he will be called ... Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6



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

### Questions that can be used in 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?
- What does it mean to you to live in the Wonder of God?
- How does living with the wonder of God contribute to having peace in our lives?
- In your own words explain what it means to have peace with God?
- What does it mean to have peace with yourself?
- What does it mean to have peace with others? Does it mean we won't have conflict with others? How does peace allow us to live in conflict?
- In your own words, what does it mean to accept God's gift? How does this bring peace into our lives?
- How can we stop living in the past?
- How do we let go of resentment? What does it mean to stop wasting time on what we can't change?
- How does putting our trust in the greatness of God give us peace?

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OTHER NOTES:

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Today's Talk..



**Peace**