

Be a DISCIPLE

Mitchell Berean Church

Come and See (John 1:39)

Follow Me (John 1:43)

Become a Fisher of People (Matt 4:19)

Go Make Disciples (Matt 28:19)

Week 7

Week 7 - You Need to Make Peace with Others

In this campaign we are learning about the 4 chairs of Discipleship –

Chair 1 - Come and See (John 1:39)

Chair 2 - Follow Me (John 1:43)

Chair 3 - Become a Fisher of People (Matt 4:19)

Chair 4 - Go Make Disciples (Matthew 28:19)

As Disciples of Jesus we are asking these 2 questions throughout this campaign:

What chair are you in?

What chair do you need to move towards?

Our lessons throughout these eight weeks will focus on the Eight Attitudes we need to have in order to GROW in our relationship with God.

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

This week we look at the seventh attitude that puts us in a position to be blessed by God. The seventh attitude that puts us in a position to be blessed by God is to recognize that You Need to Make Peace with Others.

In stark contrast to our society's need to fight for what we want, God calls us to be at peace with the people around us.

In order live in peace, we must truly trust God to provide our needs and look to Him be the source of our identity. The Holy Spirit has been given to us to give us power to handle anything with a clear mind and a pure heart so we can be less easily offended and be able to forgive others when they wrong us.

Peacemaking begins with our heart and mind being at peace. When we lack inner peace, we become a source of conflict in the world around us. Addiction, anger and anxiety have their root in inner chaos. When we find inner peace as we trust God, it helps us handle the world around us and our problems with serenity.

Have someone read is verse:

John 14:27

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.

We see here that Jesus claims to be the source of peace. If we really trust Him, it will be evident in how we live at peace with the world around us.

Have someone read these verses:

Isaiah 26:3

You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you!

Philippians 4:6-7

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.

Romans 8:6

So letting your sinful nature control your mind leads to death. But letting the Spirit control your mind leads to life and peace.

John 13:35

Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.

Proverbs 16:7

When people's lives please the Lord, even their enemies are at peace with them.

Romans 12:9-21

Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other. Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically. Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble, and keep on praying. When God's people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you. Don't curse them; pray that God will bless them. Be happy with those who are happy, and weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with each other. Don't be too proud to enjoy the company of ordinary people. And don't think you know it all! Never pay back evil with more evil. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honorable. **Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone.** Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say, "I will take revenge; I will pay them back," says the Lord. Instead, "If your enemies are hungry, feed them. If they are thirsty, give them something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals of shame on their heads." Don't let evil conquer you, but conquer evil by doing good. *(Emphasis added)*

Questions:

1. Why is it often difficult to be peaceful with others?
2. What are the world's ideas on how to handle conflict with others?
3. What is it we think we will gain by seeking revenge or winning an argument?
4. What is different about how Christ followers handle conflict?
5. How can outward conflict be an indicator of inward chaos?
6. What attitudes can help us achieve inner peace?
7. How can trusting God and the Holy Spirit's guidance lead to inner peace?
8. How is inner peace reflected in the relationships around us?
9. What is an arena in your life in which you can bring peace rather than chaos?
10. What is it about being a peacemaker that identifies us as children of God?

Pray Together

As you pray together tonight, encourage everyone to share a need. As you pray, ask everyone to pray with their hands open with their palms up, as a physical way of showing our need for God's provision and help.

Weekly Challenge:

This week, live with a trust in God that leads to inner peace. Then let that inner peace show others that you are a child of God.

- 1. Read your Bible** every day this week and look for examples of those who had inner peace because of their trust in God. Look at how they handled their conflict with others and the testimony they had for Christ as a result.
- 2. Spend time Praying** every day this week. Ask God to give you an inner peace that will be evident in the way you interact with others.
- 3. Ask the Holy Spirit** to increase your trust in God so you can be a peacemaker with those around you.
- 4. Seek to become a person** who fully trusts God to be the Judge so you can live in peace with yourself and those with whom you interact so you can be called a child of God.