

Discipleship - Session 21

Living In The Peace Of God

Things we will cover this lesson:

1. Peace is a credential sign of living in the Father's love
2. Peace proclaimed
3. Peace imperfect
4. Peace practiced
5. God is the Keeper of the peace

Assignment:

1. Continue ALONE prayer log. (One day -- 1/2 hour.) (One day -- 1 hour.)
2. Communing Word log.
3. Pray 2 Peter 1:1-15 into your life.
4. Pray the 6 Marks into your life.
5. Also go over the material you learned this session. Look up all the scriptures. Put this lesson to practice in your daily life.

Living In The Peace Of God

I. Peace - A Credential Sign Of Living In The Father's Love

1. Peace Proclaimed

Throughout the Word of God, peace has been proclaimed. To walk correctly with God is to walk in peace! Consider these passages of proclamation.

Isaiah 9:6-7 ⁶ For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called **Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace**. ⁷ Of the increase of *His* government **and peace** *There will be* no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this. (NKJV)

Notice the order of progression of these names.
Notice also the expression: "*Of the increase..*"

Numbers 6:24-26

²⁴ "The LORD bless you and keep you;

²⁵ The LORD make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you;

²⁶ The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, **And give you peace**." (NKJV)

Luke 2:10-14 ¹⁰ Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. ¹¹ "For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹² "And this *will be* the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: ¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth **peace**, goodwill toward men!" (NKJV)

God's desire is for you to walk in peace! He has proclaimed it so.

2. Peace Imperfected

It is obvious that we are supposed to have peace. It is also obvious that through Jesus we are supposed to find that peace. Yet it is equally obvious that all too many of God's children do not walk in peace. Why? One reason we give is the spiritual battle we are in. This is not a reason; it is an excuse. Our Father knows we are in a spiritual battle. He has come so we can have peace and rest even in the midst of the battles of life. Consider the following.

James 4:7 ⁷ Therefore **submit to God**. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. (NKJV)

Many resist the devil with every tactic of spiritual warfare they have been taught. Yet the devil does not flee from them. Why? Because they have not first submitted to God. Being submitted to God brings peace! Christians who know the Father loves them find submission an easy thing to do.

Jude 21 ²¹ keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. (NKJV)

Philippians 1:27-28 ²⁷ Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸ and not in any way terrified by your adversaries, which is to them a proof of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that from God. (NKJV)
(Perdition means eternal damnation.)

{Philippians 1:28 ²⁸ without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved -- and that by God. (NIV)}

Only a person of peace can do what Jesus said in Luke 6:27-28:

Luke 6:27-28 ²⁷ "But I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ "bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you. (NKJV)

Satan will constantly defeat us if we are not people of peace. If we live in the love of our Father, then we will have peace and Satan will have nothing in us.

John 14:30 ³⁰ "I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming, and he has nothing in Me. (NKJV)

Exodus 14:13-14 ¹³ And Moses said to the people, "**Do not be afraid.** Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever. ¹⁴ "The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace." (NKJV) (you need only to be still - NIV)."

Remember in the battle we are supposed to have the following article of armor:
Ephesians 6:15 ¹⁵ and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; (NKJV)

3. Peace Practiced.

When children of God are living completely in the Father's love, they will be living in peace in their daily lives. A child who is stressed out and tense about life has not learned to walk in the love of the Father that casts out fear and all its torments. Consider the following on peace and evaluate whether or not you are presently walking in the Father's love.

All of Paul's letters (except Hebrews) begins with an exhortation about "**peace from God our **Father** and the Lord Jesus Christ.**" This is how important this was to Paul.

Listen to the following passages of scripture:

John 14:27 ²⁷ "**Peace** I leave with you, **My peace** I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. (NKJV)

John 16:33 ³³ "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have **peace**. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." (NKJV)

John 20:19-21 ¹⁹Then, the same day at evening, being the first *day* of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "**Peace** be with you." ²⁰When He had said this, He showed them *His* hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹So Jesus said to them again, "**Peace** to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." (NKJV)

Romans 8:6 ⁶For to be carnally minded *is* death, but to be spiritually minded *is* life and **peace**. (NKJV)

Galatians 5:22-23 ²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, **peace**, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. (NKJV)

If we live in the love of the Father and understand that "perfect love casts out fear," then we are living in peace. To live in a place free of fear is to live in **peace!**

Remember one of God's names is Jehovah Shalom.

II. Peace Is From God - He keeps The Peace

Isaiah 26:3

³**You will keep him in perfect peace,** *Whose mind is stayed on You,* Because he trusts in You. (NKJV)

The Hebrew word for "keep" carries with it the idea of: to watch, to preserve, to guard from dangers, to observe, to guard with fidelity, to keep secret, to be kept close, to be blockaded. Note this is something that God does!

The Hebrew word for "peace" is "shalom". It carries with it the idea of: completeness in number, safety, soundness in body, welfare, health, prosperity, peace, quiet, tranquillity, contentment, friendship with God especially in covenant relationship. Again note this is something God does!

The Hebrew word for "mind" carries the idea of: intellectual framework, to form, to fashion, to frame. Thus it is your thinking patterns that you choose to allow to happen in your mind.

The Hebrew word for "stayed" carries the idea of: to lean or lay upon, rest upon, lean against, to support, uphold, sustain. The verb form is a passive participle in the Hebrew language which means something that *has been going on and is still happening*. Therefore, this person's thinking patterns have been being build on (resting upon) God and they still are built upon (resting upon) God!

The Hebrew word for "trusts" carries the idea of: to have confidence, to be confidence, to be bold, to be secure. It too is written in the passive participle. Therefore, this person has been having his confidence (trust) in God and he is still having his confidence (trust) in God!

UNDERSTANDING: The person who frames his thinking around God because he has learned to trust God will have the peace of God for God will keep him in His peace! Praise God! God will give the peace!

Now consider what Paul says in Philippians 4:6-7.

Philippians 4:6-7

⁶Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

⁷and **the peace of God**, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. (NKJV)

Notice again it is the peace of God. This is not something we bring to ourselves; it is what God gives!

Let us conclude our study of peace by looking at these Psalms:

Psalms 4:8; 27:1-6; 29:10-11; 34:14-15; 37:1-11, 37; 55:16-18; 85:8-10; 91:1-6; 119:165.

SUMMATION STATEMENT: This kind of peace is not possible without first fully understanding that the Father loves you, He really, really loves you! The ultimate place of living on this earth is to walk in the peace of God! Are you there? Your Father wants you to be.