

40 Days With Jesus Week #6 – Jesus on “Persevering with Peace”

Matthew 5:9

Summary

This sermon will focus on the seventh beatitude: *the peacemakers*. We will explore what is meant by true peace according to Scripture as well as how Christians can be the instrument of peace in a world that is continually at war. We will examine four marks of the peacemaker in particular: (1) He has made peace with God, (2) He leads others to make peace with God, (3) He helps others make peace with one another, and (4) He finds the point of agreement so that he can begin witnessing.

Four Principles of Persevering with Peace

Principle #1 – Peace is Defined by God

- **1 Corinthians 14:33** – For God is not a God of disorder but of peace.
- **Ephesians 2:13-14**
- **Colossians 1:19-20**
- God = Source of Peace, Son = Manifestation of Peace, Holy Spirit = Agent of Peace – Gal. 5:22, Judges 6:24
- Three Parts of Peace = Righteousness...Holiness...Purity
- **Key Point** – The main point of this principle is to help us understand that the peace that we are to pursue is not the idea of a worldly peace which will eventually fade away. We are to pursue the peace that only comes from God and will remain forever.
- **Key Question:** What are the main differences between worldly peace and Godly peace? Explain why this matters.

Principle #2 – Peacemakers are not Pacifists

- **Matthew 10:34**
- **James 3:16-18**
- Enemy of Peace = Sin
- Peace cannot dwell with Sin
- **Key Point:** The main point of this principle is that when a person sets out to make peace based on righteousness, holiness, and purity then they will face opposition especially in a world that does not honor this type of peace. Opposition will always precede peace.
- **Key Question:** What are some examples that you have seen where peace was preceded by strife? Explain.

Principle #3 – Peacemakers are Children of God

- **2 Corinthians 5:18**
- **Romans 8:17**
- **Key Point:** The main point of this principle is simply that the only true peacemakers are the children of God. We are to be instruments of peace as Jesus was the ultimate instrument of peace.
- **Key Question:** What does it mean, in practical terms, to be a “Child of God?” Explain.

Principle #4 – Peacemakers are Imitators of Christ

- **Romans 12:18**
- **Four characteristics of a Peacemaker**
 - (1) He has made peace with God.
 - (2) He leads others to make peace with God.
 - (3) He helps others make peace with others.
 - (4) He starts where people are at.
- **Key Point:** The main point of this principle is simply that we are to be imitators of Christ which means that we are live out His example within our lives.
- **Key Question:** How can we practically be instruments of peace today? Explain.

Questions to Consider

1. Where do I have a lack of peace or a form of unrest in my life?
2. How is God calling me to directly be a “*peacemaker*” in the lives of others?

Challenge

- This week make an effort to find one person that you are not at peace with in your life and apply Romans 12:18.

Memory Verse

Matthew 5:9 – Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called sons of God.



CICERO CHRISTIAN CHURCH where God's
love flows
like a river

1715 Stringtown Pike • Cicero, IN 46034 • 317.984.4653 • cicerochristianchurch.org