

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT: WEEK 4

PEACE

MEANING



***THE HEBREW WORD FOR “PEACE” IS “SHALOM”;
AN APPEARANCE OF CALM AND TRANQUILITY OF
INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS, AND NATIONS.***

***THE GREEK WORD FOR “PEACE” IS “EIRENE” MEANING “UNITY AND ACCORD;
THE SPIRITUAL HARMONY OR REST BROUGHT ABOUT BY OUR RESTORATION
WITH GOD THROUGH CHRIST’S WORK ON THE CROSS.”***

SCRIPTURE



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|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| ISAIAH 26:3-4 | JOHN 16:33 | PHILIPPIANS 4:6-9 | I SAMUEL 15 |
| EXODUS 24:13-14 | EXODUS 32:21-29 | 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17-19 | |
| GALATIANS 1:10 | 1 KINGS 3:16-28 | 1 SAMUEL 25:32-33 | |
| ESTHER 4:15-17 | MATTHEW 27:24 | EPHESIANS 1:14-16 | |
| PHILIPPIANS 2:7 | 1 TIMOTHY 2:5 | COLOSSIANS 3:12-17 | |

GOING DEEPER



PEACE:

- The Hebrew word for “peace,” is “**shalom**”,
- “Shalom” is often used in reference to an appearance of calm and tranquility of individuals, groups, and nations.
- The Greek word for “peace” is “**eirene**”
- “Eirene” means “unity and accord; the spiritual harmony or rest brought about by our restoration with God through Christ’s work on the cross.”
- It occurs 92 times in the New Testament.
- It derives from the word **eiro**; a verb which means: “peace; by implication, prosperity.”
- It is also seen as a noun according to the New Testament Greek, meaning, “A state of national tranquility, peace between individuals, security, and salvation.”
- The peace that God gives does not make sense according to the world’s standards.
- When chaos ensues and the circumstances that surround your life are screaming unrest and turmoil; you should be losing your mind; BUT God’s word promises us that if we keep our mind stayed upon Him, He will keep us in PERFECT peace!



- His peace does not waiver, it does not wane, it will not bow, it will not bend, it will not break.
- This is a peace different from what the world offers.
- When we are in the world, we can only possess what the world can give us which is a “false peace”.
- We can only have the peace that we ourselves can make...completely dependent on our surroundings and circumstances, this “peace” is temporary and flawed!
- When we are reconciled to God through the finished work of the cross and we believe that He is our Lord and Savior, at that moment the Holy Spirit comes to live in us then we have that perfect peace that only He can give.
- The things of this world may leave someone “feeling” peaceful, but only the Holy Spirit can leave a person peace-filled.

WAYS THAT THE FRUIT OF PEACE PLAYS OUT IN OUR LIVES:

TRANQUILITY:

- To be tranquil means, to be “free from agitation of mind or spirit, free from disturbance or turmoil. Steady or stable.”
- There is an actual sense of tranquility in the life of a believer.
- Tranquility is a state of confident rest which stems from identity in Christ.
- I am at peace in my soul because I have Jesus and because I have Jesus I can have His peace provided in every moment.
- Jesus has set all believers free in Him therefore His Spirit leads to our freedom.
- His Spirit produces the fruit of peace; we can be freed from agitation and disturbance when the Spirit lives in our hearts and we are walking in Him.
- The life of a believer does not have to be quiet, but the presence of a believer will exhibit stability and rest in the Savior.
- Only when we allow doubt and fear to rule our thoughts and our actions, then His peace will be stifled and shut out of our lives.
- When we are living by the Spirit and not the flesh, this means that a Spirit-filled life leads one to be a peacemaker.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A PEACEMAKER AND A PEACEKEEPER?

PEACEKEEPER:

- Peacekeepers simply want to keep the peace and disguise true differences with **fake unity**.
- A peacekeeper is someone who keeps the peace at **ANY** cost.
- This person may avoid confrontation, people pleasing, have difficulty saying “no,” rarely voice an opinion on decisions, and typically go along with what others want.
- Peacekeepers are recognized as those who uphold peace by actively preventing, averting, or altogether avoiding conflict.
- They effectively manage tensions by ensuring harmony or preserving the status quo, rather than merely addressing superficial issues.



- In this context, their primary objective is to prevent escalation by neglecting to resolve deeper-rooted problems.
- Peacekeeping be misconstrued as “loving” or “serving” others
- We are to love and serve people as God directs us, but that’s different from peacekeeping.

PRIME EXAMPLES OF A PEACEKEEPER:

AARON:

- Aaron was second in command of the Israelites, and they were his responsibility while Moses was gone (Exodus 24:13-14).
- He was to restrain the people, no matter how many there were.
- When Moses came down from the mountain after the Lord directed him to go, he confronted Aaron.
- Aaron said, “Do not let the anger of my lord become hot. You know the people, that they are set on evil. “For they said to me, ‘Make us gods that shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.’ “And I said to them, ‘Whoever has any gold, let them break it off.’ So they gave it to me, and I cast it into the fire, and this calf came out.” Now when Moses saw that the people were unrestrained (for Aaron had not restrained them, to their shame among their enemies): Exodus 32:21-25 NKJV
- Aaron was keeping the peace (so he thought) in the camp and it cost them over 3,000 men (Exodus 32:25-29) and brought plagues to God’s people.
- Sometimes the price for keeping peace is higher than actually confronting and making peace.

KING SAUL:

- He disobeyed the commandment of the Lord when he allowed king Agag to live, let the people keep whatever they wanted, because he feared the people (1 Samuel 15).
- Saul may have kept peace with the people, but he lost the kingdom when God rejected him as king.
- The Apostle Paul said this about himself, which directly relates to peacekeeping. ***“Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ” (Galatians 1:10).***

PEACEMAKER:

- A peacemaker on the other hand is an individual dedicated to forging peace through active engagement.
- This person unwaveringly pursues reconciliation, justice, and authentic peace, transcending mere temporary calm.
- Peacemakers adeptly confront the root causes of conflict and champion healing and restoration, frequently taking the initiative in challenging scenarios where truth must be boldly asserted and justice relentlessly sought.
- Everywhere in the Bible the word, “peacemakers” is used, it’s in the plural form.
- In order for true peace to exist, all parties must be in agreement and strive to foster peace; It cannot reside with just one.



PRIME EXAMPLES OF A PEACEMAKER:

MOSES:

- Moses would continually step in and be the mediator between God and His chosen people. Time and time they rebelled, and time and time again Moses was there to bring them to repentance and restoration with their Creator.

KING SOLOMON (1 Kings 3:16-28):

- When two women came to Solomon, each claiming to be the mother of a baby, Solomon used wisdom to bring about peace and resolve the dispute by offering a solution that revealed the true mother, demonstrating his peacemaking ability.

KING DAVID: (1 Samuel 25:32-33):

- When Abigail, the wife of Nabal, intervened to prevent David from avenging the insult Nabal had given him, she became a peacemaker. She reminded David that God would take care of the situation, and David blessed her for her wise and peaceful intervention.

ESTHER: (Esther 4:15-17):

- Esther acted as a peacemaker between the Jewish people and the Persian King Xerxes. She risked her life to approach the king and plead for the lives of her people, ultimately bringing peace and deliverance to the Jews in a time of great danger.

JESUS:

- He is THE ultimate Peacemaker, and we are to be like Him!

SECURITY:

- Have you ever been around someone insecure in their relationship?
- It is exhausting, unpredictable, and messy.
- There is a lack of confidence and trust in just about every area of their life.
- Our insecurity began the moment Adam and Eve sinned in the garden.
- Their sin led to the fall and death of this world.
- It is a prime example of what happens when we let Satan's words become our gospel and chose to ignore and disobey God and what He has already spoken to us.
- Our confident relationship with God was compromised by our own disobedience.
- We know that Jesus is our SOLID ROCK; when build our house upon HIM, we are solid and secure!
- We can have peace in the power of the cross and resurrection of Jesus.
- We can have peace in the confidence of our eternal home in Heaven.
- We can have peace in the sealing of the Holy Spirit as a down payment for our future (Ephesians 1:14-16).
- Many times, we do not display peace in our lives because we lack security.
- Jesus has commissioned us to rest in our relationship with Him and to walk forward with the shoes of peace; Walking implies movement and having purpose or direction.
- Being secure in our identity as children of God empowers us to live by His Spirit and walk in peace.
- Maintaining our relationship with Christ daily will silence all the insecurity that we have!



RECONCILIATION:

- Unfortunately, our sin has kept us away from God.
- He is perfectly holy, and we are unholy.
- Since we are sinners, we are in need of a Savior who can reconcile us back to God.
- Only God Himself could do this by taking on the form of a man and living and dying in our place (Philippians 2:7).
- Jesus is the ONLY Mediator between us and God (1 Timothy 2:5).
- If you do not have peace in your life and you have never personally accepted Jesus' gift of salvation, then you do not have reconciliation with the Lord.
- You lack peace in your life because the fruit of peace stems from reconciliation with God.
- If you have Jesus as your Savior, let this be a reminder of the covenant that He made with us.
- Having the Holy Spirit does not exempt us from genuinely struggling with fear or anxiety.
- If you are someone who battles for peace, know that you are not alone.
- Many people in the Bible who loved God wrestled with attacks from the enemy, biological tendencies, and just plain stressful situations.
- The Lord still loved them, used them, and ministered to them in their struggles while helping them be overcomers.
- He may LEAD you to the "valley", but He will not LEAVE you there!
- Remember: The enemy has always been a fruit thief.
- Even in the garden of Eden, he wanted to steal the relationship of peace and persuaded Eve to take the fruit and eat with Adam.
- Just like he was stealing fruit back then, Satan wants to steal your peace now.
- He wants to tell you to believe the lies he whispers.
- He perverts the truth and pulls you under and lulls you into a spiritual slumber so there's not much of a fight when he takes you out!
- We must let the PERFECT peace that God gives us rule and reign in our hearts!
- It's His Word; we can depend on it!
- We have access to His peace every moment of every day, no matter th.
- Our salvation is secure through the Blood of The Lamb!
- Our souls can rest in our great God.
- May we be filled with His peace today and always.

SCRIPTURE OF REFLECTION



COLOSSIANS 3:12-17:

***12. Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved,
put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering.***

***13. bearing with one another, and forgiving one another,
if anyone has a complaint against another;
even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.***

14. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.

***15. And let the PEACE of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called
in one body; and be thankful.***

***16. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing
one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,
singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.***

***17. And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God the Father through Him.***



REFLECTION/NOTES

