

What the World Needs Now – Part 3 – Peace

Discussion Questions

1. When conflict arises in a relationship, what's your natural response? Do you tend to confront it, avoid it, smooth things over, or something else?
2. We live in a culture where "cutting toxic people out of your life" and "protecting your peace" have become common ideas. What's healthy about this shift, and what concerns might it raise? How do we distinguish between setting healthy boundaries and giving up too quickly on a relationship?
3. Read 2 Corinthians 5:18–20. Paul describes followers of Jesus as "ambassadors" entrusted with the ministry of reconciliation. What does this reveal about God's heart, and how should it shape the way we approach our relationships?
4. Read Matthew 5:23–24 and Matthew 18:15–17. In both passages, Jesus calls us to take the initiative toward reconciliation, whether we've been wronged or someone has something against us. Why do you think Jesus places that responsibility on us? What makes taking the first step so difficult?
5. In Matthew 18, Jesus outlines a process for reconciliation that begins with a private conversation and, if necessary, involves bringing others into the process. What wisdom do you see in this approach? Why might we be tempted to handle conflict differently?
6. Jesus' approach calls for honesty, humility, and a willingness to listen, but it also recognizes that reconciliation isn't always possible. How do we know when to keep pursuing reconciliation, when to seek outside help, and when to accept that a relationship may not be restored?

Moving Forward

As you reflect on your own relationships, is there a conversation you need to initiate, an apology you need to offer, a boundary you need to establish, or an attitude you need to change? What is one concrete step you could take toward becoming a peacemaker this week?