

“WAGING PEACE”

Series: “THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS”, Part 7 of 8
Sunday, October 23, 2022 at 9:00 & 11:00 AM

Text: Matthew 5:9

Big Idea: Once we’ve experienced peace with God, and know increasingly the peace of God reigning and ruling in our souls, we are poised to be peacemakers.

Matthew 5:9, “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.”

I. WHY IS THERE SO LITTLE PEACE IN THE WORLD?

James 4:1a, “What causes fights and quarrels among you?”

James 4:1b, “Don’t they come from your desires that battle within you?”

Mark 7:21-23, “For from within, out of men’s hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. All these evils come from inside and make a man ‘unclean’.”

Matthew 7:11, “If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!”

II. WHAT IS THE SOLUTION THAT WILL BRING PEACE?

A. Peace with God.

Romans 5:1, “Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Colossians 1:19, “For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, 20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.”

B. Peace of God.

Colossians 3:15a, "Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts."

Philippians 4:6-7, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

III. HOW CAN WE BECOME PEACEMAKERS?

Definition: A peacemaker is any true disciple of Jesus who shares in his mission and ministry in this world.

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.
O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.