

Letting the Peace Occupy the Land –
An interview with Reuben Meriakol, Evangelist and
church planter in South Sudan
October 24, 21 | Luke 17:3-4

- Letting the Peace Occupy our Hearts
- Letting the Peace Occupy the Land

There is no shortcut to reconciliation, it always requires repentance. Repentance includes a godly sorrow that features alarm about sin, earnestness to be right with God and others, and readiness to do right once again (2 Corinthians 7:10-11). Today you can agree with God that you have sinned, seek forgiveness from those you have wronged, and know a greater peace with God and others.

Today I choose peace. I choose to repent of _____ and receive God's forgiveness.

Peacemakers let go of revenge (Romans 12:17-21), return blessing for cursing (1 Peter 3:8-9), and forgive as the Lord has forgiven them (Colossians 3:12-14). Peacemaking is a lost art, but it's a simple choice! You can choose today to forgive as the Lord forgave you.

Forgiveness is a threefold promise:

- I promise not to bring your sin up to you anymore.
- I promise not to bring your sin up to others anymore.
- I promise not to bring your sin up to myself anymore.

Today I choose peace. I choose to forgive _____ as the Lord forgave me.

FOR FURTHER REFLECTION

- Meditate on Luke 17:3-4, Psalm 103:1-12, Ephesians 4:29-32, Romans 12:17-21, 2 Corinthians 7:8-13, 1 John 1:8-10
- Watch "Finding Peace in South Sudan" – an incredible story from Reuben's ministry - <https://vimeo.com/245468908>
- Read "The Healing Power of Forgiveness" - www.biblicalcounselingcoalition.org/2016/12/21/the-healing-power-of-forgiveness
- Read "Forgiveness from the Heart" - <https://biblicalcounseling.com/resource-library/articles/forgiveness-from-the-heart/>
- Read *Putting your Past in its Place* by Stephen Viars
- Listen to "What Mercy did for Me" - www.youtube.com/watch?v=-GRU5K3UFmE
- Listen to "Over and Over Again" - www.youtube.com/watch?v=5qTeqgf9m-0

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stood out to you most from the message?
2. What impressed you the most about Reuben's ministry?
3. Reuben shared how both he and his father came to know forgiveness and salvation. Is there any sin God won't forgive? How do you know? Do you know for sure that you have been forgiven by God for your sin?
4. Read Eph. 4:29-32. What peacemaking principles do you see in these verses?
5. Think about how the Lord forgave you. What adjectives would you use to describe God's forgiveness of you? Jesus says to forgive as the Lord forgave you. Can you use those same adjectives to describe the ways you have forgiven others?
6. Read Romans 12:17-21. What peacemaking principles do you see in this passage?
7. In practical terms, how can we remain at peace with someone who does not want to have peace with us?
8. Read 2 Cor. 7:8-13. What qualities do you observe about true, godly repentance? Is there anything you need to repent of today?
9. If someone told you they just couldn't forgive someone, what would you do or say?
10. Spend some time praying for Reuben and his ministry. Pray for peace in Sudan and Kenya and throughout our land as well!