

Peace With Others

Dec. 10, 2023 | Romans 12:17-21 | Peace With Us | Pastor Mike Foster

How to live in peace with others (as much as it depends on you)

- Avoid the trap of vengeance (vv. 17, 19)

- Accept your responsibility to pursue peace (v. 18)
 - o Seize the power of forgiveness

- Act with surprising kindness (vv. 20-21)

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stood out to you most from the message?
2. Take some time to read Psalm 103. What are some specific things you observe about God in this Psalm?
3. Read Romans 12:17-21. Describe a time when you were tempted to pursue revenge. What happened? What were the results?
4. Do you think it is possible to live at peace with all people? Why or why not?
5. Describe a time when you have witnessed someone overcome evil with good (Romans 12:21, 1 Peter 2:19). What did this look like?
6. Read Ephesians 4:32. What are some ways in which the Lord has forgiven you? What are some aspects of his forgiveness that he wants us to reproduce in our relationships with others? (Consider Luke 23:34)
7. What stood out to you from the handout on "Defining Forgiveness"? Have you ever been prone to think some of the wrong ideas about forgiveness?
8. In your own words, explain the relationship between forgiveness and reconciliation. Why is it important to distinguish between the two?
9. Describe a time when you chose to forgive someone even though you didn't feel like it. How did the Lord enable you to do this? What difference has it made?
10. Has the Lord convicted you of a need to pursue peace with anyone? How will you respond to this conviction? How can others pray for you?

FOR FURTHER ACTION/REFLECTION

- Read Psalm 103, Eph. 4:32-5:2, Colossians 3:13, Hebrews 12:15, 1 Pet. 2:19
Read about "The Christmas Truce of 1914"
– <https://bit.ly/christmastruce1914>
- Read what the Bible says about revenge – <https://bit.ly/isrevengewrong>
Read about the forgiveness available to us through Christ
– <https://bit.ly/christforgiveness>
- Read to better understand forgiveness
– <https://bit.ly/understandforgiveness>
- Read for help in forgiving others
– https://bit.ly/forgive_others
- Listen to "Glory (Let There Be Peace)"
– <https://bit.ly/glorylettherebepeace>

