

Week 1:

Peace In Relational Conflict



Questions

1. What illustration, story or scripture had the greatest impact on you this week?
2. Why does relational conflict rob us of peace? What price are you paying to allow this to continue? With what one person would you like to be more at peace?
3. In John 14:27, Jesus tells us that God gives us peace differently than the world does. How have you experienced the difference of God's peace vs the world's peace?
4. The idea of *shalom* (the ancient Hebrew word for peace) is a sense of being complete or whole, such as a wall or stone with no cracks in it. What are the cracks in your life that are preventing you from experiencing *shalom*?
5. Read Philippians 4:5, which says to "let your gentleness be evident to all." What keeps you from being gentle in every situation? How do you typically respond when you catch yourself responding in the wrong manner?
6. How are you currently choosing God's peace in your life? What needs to change if you are not currently pursuing God's peace?

Scripture References

Read John 14:27, John 14:31, Romans 12:18, Philippians 4:4-5

Suggested reading - entire book of Philippians for this sermon series.

Takeaways

- No matter what has stolen your peace, you can begin receiving unlimited peace from Jesus.
- Now Jesus offers his impossible peace to you, but you must choose it.
- Steps to achieve relational peace:
 - Receive peace from Christ and learn His way of life.
 - Extend peace knowing you answer to God for your half of the relationship, but not the other half.
 - Keep your peace by daily choosing to "Live in the Lord."
- We have an appetite for approval and relational peace. Even Jesus had this. Jesus fed his appetite for approval and relational peace through God the Father. Jesus loved people extravagantly, but He didn't look to people for approval or to fill His appetite for relational peace.
- Refuse to let one relationship ruin your life.

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Weekly Action Step

Identify and take one needed step to receive the impossible and invincible gift of peace offered by Jesus.

*Additional questions located on pages 40-41 in the Chip Ingram book, "I Choose Peace."
Additional notes may also be found on pages 185-187.