

LIVING A *Blessed* LIFE

LIVING A BLESSED LIFE Part 6 – Be A Peacemaker Matthew 5:9

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

1. MAKING PEACE WITH OTHERS IS THE NATURE OF GOD.

- A. *Judges 6:24 So Gideon built an altar to the LORD there and called it The LORD is Peace.*
- B. *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.*
- C. *Leviticus 26:3,6: If you follow my decrees and are careful to obey my commands, ...I will grant peace in the land, and you will lie down and no one will make you afraid. I will remove savage beasts from the land, and the sword will not pass through your country.*
- D. *Proverbs 16:7 When a man's ways are pleasing to the Lord, he makes even his enemies live at peace with him.*

2. THE LORD INVITES US TO JOIN HIM AS A PEACE-MAKER.

- A. *Matthew 5:9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.*
- B. *Isaiah 58:12 And you shall be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in.*

3. THREE STEPS TO BECOMING A PEACEMAKER.

- A. You must make peace with God.
 - 1. *John 14:6 Jesus answered, I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.*
 - 2. *Romans 5:1 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,...*

3. How to receive Christ into your heart:

- a. Step 1 – Recognize that God Has A Special **Purpose** For You
- b. Step 2 – Acknowledge the problem of sin that has caused you to be separated from God.
- c. Step 3 – Realize God's remedy is the **cross** and resurrection.
- d. Step 4 – Receive Christ by repentance of sin and **faith** in the finished work of Christ for you.

B. You must make peace with **yourself**.

1. *Matthew 22:37-39 Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'* ³⁸ *This is the first and greatest commandment.* ³⁹ *And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as **yourself**.'*
2. *Philippians 2:4 Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.*

To love ourselves in God's eyes is to accept how He made us.

1. To accept our **physical** features.
2. To accept our gifts and abilities.
3. To accept our **heritage**.
4. To accept our unique place in God's plan.
5. To accept God's **forgiveness** in our life.

C. You must **adopt** Biblical principles of loving others.

10 Commandments To Loving Others

Commandment #1 – My love for people must be **genuine**, not just surface.

Romans 12:9 Love must be sincere.

Commandment #2 – I must be others' focused not just self-focused.

Romans 12:10 Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves.

Commandment #3 – I must be **patient** with the progress of myself and others.

Romans 12:12 Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

Commandment #4 – I must reach out to people in need.

Romans 12:13 Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

Commandment #5 – I must be **thick**-skinned.

Romans 12:14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

Commandment #6 – I must be willing to feel what another feels.

Romans 12:15 Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.

Commandment #7 – I must view everyone as worthy of **dignity** and resist the temptation of viewing myself as superior.

*Romans 12:16 Live in harmony with one another. Do not be **proud**, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.*

Commandment #8 – I must be willing to do go the “second mile” in living in peace with others while maintaining Biblical Truth.

Romans 12:18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

Commandment #9 – I must be willing to forgive when offended and not **retaliate**.

Romans 12:19-20 Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: 'It is mine to avenge; I will repay,' says the Lord. ²⁰ On the contrary: 'If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink.'

Commandment #10 – I must adopt the goal of overcoming evil with good.

*Romans 12:21 Do not be overcome by evil, but **overcome** evil with good.*

Actions Steps I will take ...

- I want to make peace with God. After this service I will go to the Next Step Center to talk with a minister about how I can have peace with Him.
- I will spend time this week with God for the goal of making peace with myself in the ways Pastor Mark articulated.
- I will adopt one or more of the 10 Commandments To Loving Others found in Romans 12 into my everyday life this week.

CDs and DVDs of today's sermon or previous sermons are available for purchase after the service at our Water's Edge Resource Center.

Notes:

