



**Advent Part 2 – Peace**  
**Pastor Rich Harris**  
**12.04.2022**

**USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE**

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

**Shalom = perfect peace, lacking nothing**

**Peace is a Person: it is not the absence of conflict; it is the presence of Jesus in our lives.**

**Key Point:**

**1. Jesus is the peace of God (peace for the here and now)**

**[Isaiah 9:6, NIV]**

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

### **Application for the Week:**

**Make space for Him in your schedule**

#### **[Matthew 6:6, ESV]**

But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

#### **[Philippians 4:6-7, NLT]**

<sup>6</sup> Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. <sup>7</sup> Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

***"Jesus is the center of everything, and we need to recalibrate ourselves that the world does not revolve around us."***

### **Application for the Week:**

**Make space for Him in your interactions with others**

#### **[Colossians 3:13-15, NLT]**

<sup>13</sup> Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. <sup>14</sup> Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup> And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body, you are called to live in peace...

#### **[Romans 12:18, NIV]**

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

### **Application for the Week:**

**Make space for Him in your thought life**

***Don't let your thoughts dictate your peace level. Anchor yourself in the Bible and declare the promises of God.***

### **[Philippians 4:8-9, ESV]**

<sup>8</sup> Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. <sup>9</sup> What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

### **[Isaiah 26:3, NLT]**

You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you!

### **Key Point:**

#### **2. Jesus is our peace with God (peace for eternity)**

### **[Romans 5:12, NLT]**

When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam's sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned.

### **[Psalm 51:5, NIV]**

Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

### **[Isaiah 64:6, NLT]**

We are all infected and impure with sin. When we display our righteous deeds, they are nothing but filthy rags. Like autumn leaves, we wither and fall, and our sins sweep us away like the wind.

### **[Romans 6:23, ESV]**

For the wages of sin is death...

### **[John 3:16-17, NLT]**

<sup>16</sup> "For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him.

### **[Romans 5:8-10, NLT]**

<sup>8</sup> But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. <sup>9</sup> And since we have been made right in God's sight by the blood of Christ, he will certainly save us from God's condemnation. <sup>10</sup> For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son.

### **[Romans 5:1, ESV]**

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

### **[Romans 10:9-10, ESV]**

<sup>9</sup> ...if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

### **Key Points:**

1. Jesus is the peace of God (peace for the here and now)
2. Jesus is our peace with God (peace for eternity)

### **Applications for the Week:**

1. Make space for Him in your schedule
2. Make space for Him in your interactions with others
3. Make space for Him in your thought life – Set time aside to read your Bible

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. What does peace mean to you?
2. Why do you think peace can be so hard to find these days? How does a lack of peace affect your actions?
3. Are you someone that tends to be a gracious and peaceable person? Do your actions reveal Jesus's peace to the world?
4. What does it look like to extend peace to others? How well are you doing in this regard? How might you improve this practice?
5. Pastor Rich said, "Peace is not a feeling, Peace is a Person." What does this mean?
6. How is the Bible such a crucial factor in experiencing the peace of Jesus?
7. How do we make space for Jesus in our interactions with others? (See Romans 12:18)