

## Blessed Are the Peacemakers - Matthew 5:9

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### I. Bringing Peace to the Storms of Life

- A. There are many kinds of storms, but relational storms are some of the most difficult to navigate (Proverbs 18:19 NASV).
  - 1. Peace in your personal relationships (Romans 12:17-18)
  - 2. Peacemaking between other parties
- B. To be a peacemaker, you have to be at peace yourself (Mark 4:35-41).
  - 1. Courage and faith are required (Mark 4:40) Jesus had faith, because He knew who He was (Mark 1:9-11).
  - 2. If you're going to rescue people, you need to wear the life vest named "Peace," especially when everyone else is not wearing theirs (Mark 4:38).
- C. When Jesus was in the boat with His disciples, that day no one was going to die—whether Jesus was awake or asleep. As Bill Johnson says, "You have authority over every storm you can sleep through."

### II. The best peacemakers are people who live in peace. They are called "children of God" (Matthew 5:9).

- A. It is the Father's touch through the ministry of the Spirit that gives us our faith and strength. Like Jesus, we know we are the beloved children of God (Romans 8:14-16).
- B. The opposite of peace is fear. It makes us slaves, and slaves don't have much authority (Romans 8:15).
- C. Even if I suffer, I can still rule as a co-heir with Christ (Romans 8:17).
- D. I can navigate the storms of life. Sometimes I sleep through them; sometimes I stand up and command them to "Shut up!" (Mark 4:39)

### III. How peacemakers receive peace and release peace

- A. Receiving the "Spirit of Adoption" that settles your soul with supernatural love (Romans 8:14-16; 5:5; I John 4:19)
- B. Looking at others through the Father's eyes (John 5:19-20)
- C. Tools for peacemakers in the Father's tool chest (Philippians 4:4-9)
  - 1. Worshiping (Philippians 4:4; Psalm 100; Acts 16:25-30, 35-36)
  - 2. Gentleness (a forbearing spirit) (Philippians 4:5; Matthew 6:12-15)
  - 3. Praying (communing) (Philippians 4:6; Luke 5:15-16)
  - 4. Petitioning with thanksgiving (remembering) (Philippians 4:6)
  - 5. Expecting and looking for the Father's peace (Philippians 4:7)
  - 6. Releasing the God of peace who is with us (Philippians 4:8-9; Matthew 1:23—Emmanuel)

*Mike Hudgins*  
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