

Youth Group Devos

-Peace-

Overview of Week: One of the “fruits” that characterizes all true disciples is peace. There are two kinds of peace. The first is a type of peace that exists between individuals or people groups (ex. there is peace between the United States and Canada). The second type is a *feeling* of peace in your heart. John Piper says this type of peace is “when the heart is not tormented by anxiety and fear and conflict.” As disciples of Christ, we are to experience both types of peace! As disciples we have *peace with God*, a *peace with neighbor*, as well as an *inner peace with ourselves*. This week we will dive into what God’s Word says about how to have peace in these three areas of life!

Day 1: Read Romans 5:1-11.

1. How does the passage say that Jesus reconciles us to God? (vs 1, 8, 10)
2. What feeling do you get knowing that through Christ you are saved from God’s wrath?
3. It is impossible to experience peace in your life if you do not have true peace from being in a right standing relationship with the LORD. How should having peace with God transform your life?

Day 2: Read Romans 12: 9-21.

1. Who are the types of people we to be at peace with? (vs 13, 14, 16, 18, 20)
2. In order for us to live in peace with the needy, those that persecute us, our enemies, etc; what must we do as Christians? (vs 10)
3. What principles from this passage would help you to have peace with your enemies?

Day 3: Read Romans 12:18.

1. Who are the people in your life that you struggle to live at peace with?
2. Why is it important to live at peace with “everyone”?

3. What tangible steps could you take to live at peace with those you struggle to live in peace with?
4. How does living at peace with people outside the faith, promote the gospel?

Day 4: Read Matthew 6:25-33

1. The opposite of peace is worry, anxiety and fear. What are the things in your life that cause worry, anxiety and fear?
2. Why did Jesus tell his audience that they do not need to worry? (25-27, 30)
3. If God takes care of the birds and flowers who can do nothing to take care of their needs; what does this tell us about how God would take care of your needs?
4. How should this passage give you a sense of peace in the areas of life that cause you anxiety and fear?

Day 5: Philippians 4:6-7

1. What are the things that Paul says you should be anxious about in this passage? (vs 6)
2. What is Paul's prescription for anxiety/worry?
3. Spend some time praying, "with thanksgiving" and "present your requests to God".

End of Week Reflection Questions

Our hope is that after this week you can say, *"I am free from anxiety and worry because I have found peace with God, with others and with myself"*. On a scale of 1 to 10, how accurate is this statement for you? Which of the three areas is most difficult for you to experience peace in?

What action step can you take this week to experience greater peace with God, others, and yourself?