

MAIN POINT

As we have experienced peace with God through the person of Jesus, He has given us His peace to comfort and strengthen us in the midst of our lives.

INTRODUCTION

Can you think of time in your life when you experienced true peace? Maybe just for a moment, or even for a season.

What made it truly peaceful? Was it internal or external?

Alongside other powerful names such as Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, and Everlasting Father, Jesus holds the title Prince of Peace. Before His death, Jesus told His followers that He would leave His peace with them (John 14:27). When we are under the authority and care of Christ, we can experience the comforting peace that surpasses human understanding.

DISCUSSION

> READ ISAIAH 9:6.

How did Jesus usher in peace for Israel and peace for us?

How do you think the kind of peace Jesus inaugurated confounded the Israelites' expectations?

Read Ephesians 2:8. How is Jesus Himself our peace?

How does His being our peace affect our relationship with God?

Read John 14:27. How does Jesus leave us His peace? How do we actually experience that kind of peace?

How is His peace different than what the world offers?

How is the peace of Christ possible even in hardship?

Where do you most need to experience the peace of Christ in your own life? In what ways is it difficult to trust God and therefore experience His peace in this season?

How might living as one who experiences God's peace in the world give opportunity to share the gospel with others?

APPLICATION

How do you need to pursue peace with those around you? How is God calling you to be a peacemaker or a representative of His peace?