

Lessons for Life

Living As A Peacemaker
The BeAtitudes - 7
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August 22/23, 2015

1. THE CONDITION

"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace." Numbers 6:24-26 (NIV)

Peace-BREAKERS

"I urge you, brothers and sisters, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. Keep away from them. For such people are not serving our Lord Christ, but their own appetites. By smooth talk and flattery they deceive the minds of naive people."

Romans 16:17-18 (NIV)

"Don't let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouth, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs that it may benefit those who listen. Do not grieve the Holy Spirit with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, brawling, and slander, along with every form of malice." Ephesians 4:29-31 (NIV)

Peace-<u>FAKERS</u>

"Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body." Ephesians 4:25 (NIV)

Peace-MAKERS

2. THE RESPONSE

Make Peace With God

Jesus Is Our Peace

"But now in Christ you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations..." Ephesians 2:13-15 (NIV)

• Jesus Purchased Our Peace

"For God was pleased to have all of His fullness dwell in Him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross."

Colossians 1:19-20 (NIV)

"Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through Jesus Christ." Romans 5:1 (NASB)

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Make Peace With Yourself

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7 (NIV)

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful." Colossians 3:15 (NASB)

Make Peace With Others

• Take The **INITIATIVE**

"So if you are presenting a sacrifice at the altar in the Temple and you suddenly remember that someone has something against you, leave your sacrifice there at the altar. Go and be reconciled to that person. Then come and offer your sacrifice to God." Matthew 5:23-24 (NLT)

Ask For GOD'S Help

"If you want to know what God wants you to do, ask Him and He will gladly tell you..." James 1:5 (TLB)

ADMIT Your Part

"Why do you notice the little piece of dust in your friend's eye, but you don't notice the big piece of wood in your own eye? You hypocrite! First, take the wood out of your own eye. Then you will see clearly to take the dust out of your friend's eye." Matthew 7:3,5 (NCV)

• **LISTEN** First

"...Be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry." James 1:19 (NLT)

 Work on <u>RECONCILIATION</u> not on <u>RESOLUTION</u>.

"God has done all this. He has restored our relationship with Him through Christ, and has give us this ministry of restoring relationships . . . He didn't hold people's faults against them, and He has given us this message of restored relationships to tell others."

2 Corinthians 5:18-19 (GW)

"If it be possible, as much as lies in you, live peaceably with all men." Romans 12:18 (KJV)

3. THE PROMISE

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God." Matthew 5:9 (ESV)