

## I. INTRO/REVIEW

- A. I'll have peace as soon as...?
- B. Living under the influence

**Galatians 5:22-23 (NLT) <sup>22</sup> But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!**

- C. The world's equation. **Peace = \_\_fewer problems and less stress\_\_**
  - Life has a way of convincing us that peace is always one solved problem away.
- D. God defines the terms, not us or culture
  - God, not culture, defines the terms of the fruit of the Spirit, if we let culture redefine words, eventually we will misunderstand God's Word

## II. PEACE

- A. Two kinds of peace

**John 14:27 (NKJV) Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.**

- B. What is bible peace?

The New Testament word **peace** is the Greek word **eirēnē**: It speaks of harmony, well-being, reconciliation, inner tranquility, and the restoration of relationships.

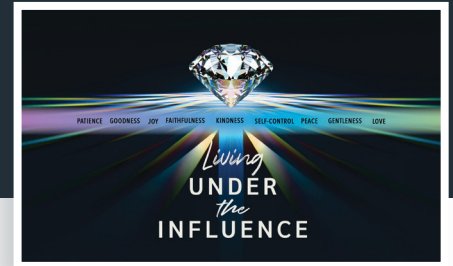
The Hebrew word **Shalom** means: Wholeness, completeness, nothing missing, broken, everything restored. Everything functioning exactly the way God intended.

**John 16:33 (NIV) I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."**

- C. I've got a peaceful easy feeling
  - What if we've been starting in the wrong place?
  - Biblical peace is not the absence of chaos, it's the presence of God restoring order in the middle of chaos.

## III. THE PEACE OF GOD

- A. God's peace equation



- We have convinced ourselves that peace lives on the other side of subtraction. If God would simply remove these things, then I'd have peace.
- **The worlds equation.** Peace = Less pressure and problems
- **God's equation:** Peace = The presence of Jesus
- Peace isn't a subtraction problem, Peace is an addition problem

#### B. The Prince of Peace

**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.**

- Peace is a connection problem
- Every time you say I need peace, you're really saying, I need Jesus

#### C. Who gets peace?

**Isaiah 26:3 (NIV) You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you.**

#### D. Let His peace rule

**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.**

**John 14:27 (NKJV) Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.**

- Maybe something that you've been asking God to remove is actually a place that He wants to enter?
- Maybe you didn't lose your peace, maybe you just drifted from the source