

# The Practice of Peace

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*If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Romans 12:18*

## The Three Fold Nature of Peace:

### 1. Peace with God

The basis of our peace with God is our justification by faith in Jesus.

*Romans 5:1...Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, **we have peace with God** through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Church signage: **No God, No Peace; Know God, Know Peace.**

#### **No Peace:**

*Colossians 1:21...Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior.*

*Isaiah 57:20-21...But the wicked are like the tossing sea, which cannot rest, whose waves cast up mire and mud. "There is no peace," says my God, "for the wicked."*

#### **Know Peace:**

*Ephesians 2:12-14...Remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ. **For he himself is our peace.***

*Proverbs 16:7...“When a man's ways are pleasing to the LORD, he makes even his enemies live at peace with him.”*

Peace with God is the foundation of knowing and experiencing peace!

### 2. Peace with Ourselves - Personal Peace

“Disturbers of the peace”

*John 16:33...“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.”*

In his assurance of peace, Jesus makes us two promises:

#1: We will have trouble in this world.

#2: He has overcome the world!

*Ephesians 1:22...And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church.*

So, why do we worry? Why do we toss Peace to the wind?...Because we don't believe!

There is a passage that can offer help to us at this point.

*Philippians 4:6-7...Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, 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.*

### **3. Peace with Others.**

*Galatians 5:22-23...But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, **peace**, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.*

*Galatians 5:15...If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.*

*Matthew 5:9...Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.*

*1 Peter 3:10-11...Whoever would love life and see good days ....must **seek peace and pursue it.***

### **Four Steps we can take to begin our Pursuit of Peace.**

1. Remember: We are all members **of the same** body.

*1 Corinthians 12:12...The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body.*

2. The body we belong to is in fact, the **body of Christ**.

*1 Corinthians 12:27...Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.*

3. In a conflict, take **personal responsibility**.

4. We must **take the initiative** to restore peace.

*Matthew 5 :23-24 (Amp)...when you are offering your gift at the altar you there remember that your brother has any grievance against you, (you're at fault) Leave your gift at the altar and go!*

*Matthew 18:15 (Amp)...If your brother wrongs you (he's at fault), go!*

In Conclusion:

*Romans 12:18...If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.*