



The Nature of Real Church: Peace

Greg Wendschag July 17, 2022

*"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, **peace**, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law."* Gal. 5:22-23

The world cries out, amid violence and strife, "Peace! Peace! Give peace a chance!" Yet peace is illusive, a mirage in the world. Peace will never be found apart from God because peace comes from God alone; He IS peace. Know God, know peace. No God, no peace.

3 Principles for Living in Peace

1. Put aside your **expectations** and put your **trust** in God.

- We lack peace when we consider it a future goal verses a present reality.

"And you my child will be called a prophet of the Most High...to guide our feet into the path of peace." Luke 1:79

"He Himself is our peace." Eph. 2:14

- The solution for unmet expectations is trust.

2. Stop trying to **control** your life and **surrender** control to God.

- We lack peace when we cannot control our circumstances producing anxiety and fear.

"You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you." Is. 26:3

"The Lord is near. 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." Phil. 4:5-7

- The solution for releasing control is surrender.

3. Cut off any **compromising** behavior and **submit** to God.

- We lack peace when we give in to sin creating conflict within our spirit.

"They must turn from evil and do good; they must seek peace and pursue it." 1 Peter 3:11

"There is no one righteous, not ever one; there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God...the way of peace they do not know." Rom. 3:10-18

- The solution for overcoming compromise is submission.

"Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." Jn. 14:27