



1 Youth Ministry

Grades 7-12

October 12, 2022

Being at peace in the midst of chaos

Midweek Youth

Join us every Wed. from 7-8pm for fellowship and prayer along with lessons applying Biblical principles to your life today and get answers to all your questions.

Foster Care Teens Personal Care Items

We are still collecting "Personal Care Items" for teens in foster care throughout the year. Items for both male and female teens are being collected in the bin just outside our youth room. These items will be sorted into personal bags and given to DCS to be distributed to teens who may not even have their own tooth brush or comb.

This Week's Bible Verse

Galatians 5:22-23

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.



Wednesday Nights at 7:00pm

You have questions? We have answers! Join us for coffee, tea, juice, hot chocolate, and light snacks while we discuss whatever is on your mind in a safe, relaxed atmosphere.

EveryWednesdayNight!

Last Sunday



Being at peace in the midst of chaos

Last Sunday, we talked about how we can be at peace even when there are storms all around us.

We started by looking in **Luke 6** where he talks about trees being recognized by their fruit just as people can be recognized by their fruit or their actions. We said

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that people can say that they are Christians all day long but it is the fruit they produce (their actions) that tell the truth.

We also talked about how what comes out of our mouths is what is in our hearts. People that we know who are always angry and bitter or complaining all the time do so because that is what is in their hearts. So, then we looked at what is in our own hearts.

Jesus talked about a spirit who would come after He was no longer with us. The Holy Spirit to live in our hearts through our faith. The Holy Spirit, being the Spirit of God, can only be good and can only guide us to God's goodness, to bring Glory to God, and to follow God's plan for us.

We talked about how we can know this spirit by the fruit He produces. We looked at the Fruit of the Spirit in **Galatians 5:22-23** and chose to talk about Peace.

First, we described what we would consider to be peace and found that in all cases it was something that is **external** and can therefore be taken away.

Just before His arrest and crucifixion, Jesus told His Disciples that He was leaving them with **HIS PEACE**. He didn't promise them that everything was going to be peaceful as we know it, just that they would have God's peace in their hearts while literally everything all around them seemed to be falling apart.

We looked at how to describe God's peace and found it to be an **internal** peace that could not ever be taken away. Paul described it as something that transcends all understanding in **Philippians 4**.

We said that while we could not logically understand God's peace, we **CAN** experience it and when we do, it makes no sense to the world. When others see us at peace in the middle of troubling times, they are amazed and want to know why.

A good example of being in God's peace can be found in **Matthew 8** where Jesus, being in God's peace, could actually sleep while a storm raged all around them and His Disciples were freaking out being afraid they were all going to die.

Keeping our focus on God and what He is doing rather than on the world and what chaos is going on around us can bring us **internal peace** in our hearts.

A Pastor once described being in the "Peace of God"

as "feeling the same way that God would feel about it." So the next time you're feeling stressed, or worried, or afraid, just ask yourself "How would God feel about this?" It's guaranteed that He wouldn't be stressed or worried or afraid, so why should you.

We talked about how people are worried, anxious, and living in constant fear over all the craziness going on in the world and even in their own personal lives.

As Christians, we don't have to let what's going on in the world affect us. We can just say, "No thanks, I'm not participating in that, I have Jesus by my side and the Holy Spirit in my heart."

Jesus tells us to give all our troubles to Him. When you pray, ask God to take your worries and your stress from you and to give you the strength you need to get through whatever it is that is troubling you. Then **trust and believe** that He will.

Remember to not take it back, especially when things aren't going the way **YOU** think they should. Satan and the world will try to convince you to take back your worries. But, if you keep your focus on God and not on what the world is telling you, you can say, "Not today Satan, I've given those worries over to Jesus."

We said that doesn't mean that you don't have to still do something to address whatever the situation is. Your life doesn't immediately become all rainbows and unicorns. It just means that you can be at peace while you're doing it. But, once the stress and anxiety is lifted from you, it will be much easier for you to do whatever you need to do to move forward.

We then told a story about two friends who lost their jobs. One who focused on not having a job and the second who kept his focus on what Jesus told him.

The first was too stressed to even find another job while the second was able to find an even better job than the one he lost. The best part was when his friend asked how he could be so calm in the midst of a very troubling time the second person was able to introduce his friend to Jesus and what He can do.

Just by his friend seeing the fruit of God's spirit living in him he was able to bring his friend to Jesus. He even ended up helping his friend find a better job as well.

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