

WONDER

- A Song of Peace -

 New Life Christian Center + December 17, 2023

Pastor Dave Larson | Turlock
Pastor Jeremy Moore | Patterson

Read Luke 2:8-14 (NLT)

Def. of peace – freedom from disturbance...

4 CATEGORIES OF STRESS

- Place
- Pace
- Problem
- Person

Isaiah 9:6 (NLT) For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

1. The peace of Jesus can _____ my soul.

Philippians 4:6-7 (NLT) Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. 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.

2. The peace of Jesus can _____ my attention.

Mark 4:39-40 (NLT) When Jesus woke up, he rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Silence! Be still!" Suddenly the wind stopped, and there was a great calm. Then he asked them, "Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?"

Mark 4:41 (NLT) The disciples were absolutely terrified. "Who is this man?" they asked each other. "Even the wind and waves obey him!"

3. Jesus IS _____.

Luke 2:13-14 (NLT) Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God and saying, "Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased."

John 14:27 (NLT) "I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid."

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Isaiah 9:6 (NLT) For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

1. The peace of Jesus can CALM my soul.

Philippians 4:6-7 (NLT) Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. 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.

2. The peace of Jesus can REFOCUS my attention.

Mark 4:39-40 (NLT) When Jesus woke up, he rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Silence! Be still!" Suddenly the wind stopped, and there was a great calm. Then he asked them, "Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?"

Mark 4:41 (NLT) The disciples were absolutely terrified. "Who is this man?" they asked each other. "Even the wind and waves obey him!"

3. Jesus IS PEACE.

Luke 2:13-14 (NLT) Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God and saying, "Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased."

John 14:27 (NLT) "I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

December 17, 2023

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[CONNECT]

Discuss a time, or season, when you desperately needed some “peace and quiet” in your life. (e.g.- financial peace, mental or emotional peace, relational peace...)

[ENGAGE]

What stood out to you from this weekend’s message?

[GROW]

- First, Read Luke 2:8-14.

- Now, think about that night the angels appeared to the shepherds. It’s dark...quiet... then suddenly – the darkness is ripped open by an angel proclaiming the GOOD NEWS of Jesus’ birth. Afterward, the entire army of God’s angels have filled the sky around you echoing the same joy. Describe this moment...

- The definition of peace is – freedom from disturbance. The four main stressors of life fall into one of four categories. Place, Pace, Problem, and Person. From the weekend’s message, which one (or more than one) of the categories do you tend to find a lack of peace?

- The peace of Jesus can bring calm to your soul. Read Isaiah 9:6 to see what name the prophet Isaiah gives to Jesus centuries before His birth. What does this name mean to you?

- The peace of Jesus can refocus your attention. Read Mark 4:35-41. How did the peace of Jesus get the attention of the disciples, and how can that same peace get your attention today?

- Jesus IS peace. Not only is peace one of his characteristics, but it’s also one of His attributes. Meaning – peace is part of who He is. Not only does Jesus BRING peace, but He IS peace. How can this truth impact your life as you grow and develop into a closer relationship with Him?

[CHALLENGE]

What are some practical things you can begin today to embrace the peace of Jesus in your life? First, identify what could be stealing your peace. (Place, Pace, Problem, and/or person from the message). Then, begin to pray and ask Jesus for wisdom to navigate through whatever issue or circumstance with which you are processing.

Talk to someone. Join a group. Serve someone. Read the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) and live the life Jesus modeled for you to live. Jesus lived a life of peace because He IS peace.