

MONDAY 10.20.25 - 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."

This is part of Christ's farewell as he is preparing his disciples for his crucifixion and trials that will follow. The message remains the same today for us. Scripture teaches us that we will face difficulties and hardships in life, but this verse offers us the same hope and reassurance and peace that Jesus offered his disciples.

Upon hearing that they were going to face trials, the disciples must have been apprehensive. But looking back from the other side of the cross, they realized Christ was in control all of the time. It is that knowledge that gives us peace and courage to weather life's storms.

It is not the absence of trouble, as some false teachers preach, but a peace in the middle of life's challenges that Christ is offering. He has conquered sin and adversity, and he will strengthen us to remain faithful, and he will lead us through.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

TUESDAY 10.21.25 - Philippians 4:6-9

Philippians 4:6-9, 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. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

Often, people ask me to pray for God's peace in their life. Why does God's peace seem so elusive?

Let me share with you several things we need to do if we are going to experience God's peace. First, accept Christ and have the Holy Spirit living within us. Second, live in the present. Don't live in the past, the past is gone. Don't live in the future the future is in God's hands. Third, seek God in prayer. Prayer is not only making requests but should always involve worship and thanksgiving. Forth, through the power of the Holy Spirit, take control and purpose to focus on good and Godly things. Fifth, get into the Word, so God can speak to you. Sixth, believe that God will give you peace no matter what the circumstances. If you do these things I believe you will experience God's peace, and that is my prayer for you today.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

WEDNESDAY 10.22.25 - Ephesians 1:3-6

This opening section of the Paul's letter to the Ephesians (vv. 3-14) has been described as a "eulogy to God." It's a tribute to the glory and grace of God. It's a call to worship designed to lift our eyes away from ourselves and up to the majesty and goodness of God. It's Paul's way of showing the Ephesian church—and us—why the Gentiles are part of God's people.

These opening verses reveal that Paul isn't seeking to build an argument as much as he is seeking to build a choir. He's worshipping God and inviting his readers to join him. All of the theology that he's about to unpack in chapters 1-3 comes from a heart of worship and praise to God. God is to be praised for who He is and what He's done. Take a moment right now to praise God for His spiritual blessings.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

THURSDAY 10.23.25 - Deuteronomy 10:20-21

Here our God declares that He is and should be and is worthy to be our praise. The final verse of the chapter states that the Israelites went to Egypt as 70 persons and came out what we consider to be about two or three million people. God was faithful to them. But more than faithful, he contends that He is awesome and mighty and we should fear Him. On the other hand, He is on our side, He is FOR us and, therefore, we should praise Him.

He outlines reasons why we should praise Him even as He works in our midst every day. He is a father when one is missing, a husband when one is gone, a lover of all aliens (which includes us). Our own experience reminds us that he is comfort, health, sustenance, prosperity and peace, along with so much more. He is our Praise and our God and does 'awe-inspiring works' our eyes have seen.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

FRIDAY 10.24.25 - Psalm 69:30

Nothing is quite as humbling as the act of praising God. When we focus on who He is and what He has done, our lives truly become insignificant. Yet God loves us. He knows us individually; we are important to Him. Every detail of our lives: every thought, every need, every care, every joy is known to Him. How can we not be thankful! How can we not rejoice in the privilege of addressing the Lord Almighty! We sing praises about Him and to Him. We tell the world of His greatness and glory. We thank Him for His merciful gift of salvation that brought Jesus to earth to die for our sins. Why did He do this? Because He wants our fellowship. He created us to commune with Him, but our sin separated us from Him. Yet He made the way for restoration if we choose it. Thank you, Lord Jesus.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

E2 GROUP OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY MORNINGS - 9:40am

- Kids** CHILDREN'S CHURCH (Ages 4 – 4th Grade)
LOCATION: Camp Shiloh on the Lower Level
NURSERY (through Age 3) *9:40AM ONLY
LOCATION: Camp Shiloh on the Lower Level
- Youth** E2 CLASS (5th – 12th Grade)
LOCATION: Youth Activity Center (across street)
- Adults** **FALL QUARTER** – Sunday Mornings at 9:40
LOCATION: B8-10 – Lane Kemler- began Sept. 7th.
EXPLORE THE BIBLE: Numbers& Deuteronomy
Recount how the nation of Israel wandered in the wilderness for four decades and how God taught them to be His people as they approached the promised land.
LOCATION: B11 – Shawn Devlin – began Sept. 7th.
BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE:
The Greatest Truths of All Times
We begin with the one truly “Greatest of All Time”, God Himself, and consider five great truths that lead us to the greatest hope of all time.
LOCATION: B1-2 – Joel & Tara Day – began Sept. 7th.
Sacred Marriage
What if God Designed Marriage to Make Us Holy More Than to Make Us Happy. It can become a doorway to a closer walk with God.

SUNDAY EVENINGS - 6:00pm

- Kids** MESSIAH KIDS (Kindergarten – 4th Grade)
LOCATION: Camp Shiloh on the Lower Level
- Youth** YOUTH GROUP (5th – 12th Grade)
LOCATION: Youth Activity Center (across street)
- Adults** LOCATION: Worship Center

LADIES FALL STUDY - DARING JOY - by Nicole Zasowski
Began Oct. 2nd at 9am - Rm B8-10 – 7-week study. (No class on 10/9)
Experience God's heart for your joy. Led by Chris Knepley.

WEDNESDAY EVENING STUDY - REVIVE US - by Robby Gallaty
Began Oct. 1st at 6:30pm – Rm. B8-10. Begin with a clear definition of revival. Spread revival to your church & community. Led by Barry Wills.

TO SIGN UP OR REQUEST MORE INFORMATION FOR ANY OF THESE GROUPS OR CLASSES,
USE THE CONNECTION CARD IN THE BULLETIN. THANK YOU.

Ephesians 1:1-2 (Part 2) ***Peace in the Place of Panic***

In Ephesus, Paul experiences a time of prosperity in ministry, but that prosperity is about to turn into panic. Yet, Paul experiences peace during panic. How does he do that? The same way you can do it. No matter what comes your way in 2023, you can experience peace.

1. In uncertain times, _____ (Acts 19:21-22)

Do you have a desire tugging at your heart? Is your natural response frustration, anxiety, and panic? What should you do? Go to the Lord. Take the matter to Him in prayer.

- Philippians 4:6-7

2. In unsettling times, _____ (Acts 19:23-31)

Peace isn't found in the absence of problems. Peace is found in the presence of God. When you focus on God's truth, He gives you His peace.

- Philippians 4:8-9; Isaiah 26:3

3. In uncontrollable times, _____ (Acts 19:32-41)

With each passing minute, the situation is getting more and more out of control. Paul's life is becoming more and more in danger.

- Proverbs 3:5-6

Why do we have so little peace? Because we want to be in charge of our lives. We want to accomplish our own dreams, control uncontrollable situations, and manipulate our uncertain futures, but this way of thinking leads us down the muddy path of worry and panic.

We don't know what the future holds, but we know who holds the future. We can trust in our kind, all-knowing, sovereign God.

 Edifying and Equipping Every Day

TAKING OUR NEXT STEP TOGETHER IN THE WORD



October 20 – October 24

INTRODUCTION:

Part of our purpose and strategy as a church is to Edify and Equip (E2) every believer. We desire to see every person take their next step with God, both individually as well as with families and small groups (E2 Communities). This devotional is to aid us in just that. We invite you to join us in daily devotion.

OVERVIEW:

On Sunday, October 19th, we heard the message “Blessings for the Body”, part 1, with Pastor Doug Lyon. On Sunday, October 26th, Pastor Doug Lyon will share “Blessings for the Body”, part 2.

KEY/MEMORY VERSE:

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever
Hebrews 13:8