



Behold The King

1. Read John 14:27. When Jesus says that the peace he gives is not like the peace that the world gives, how is his peace different?
2. What are the three types of peace that God offers to us? According to Pastor Rick, when does each type occur? In which of these three areas do you have the most struggle having peace? Why? What could you do to improve the amount of peace you have in this area?
3. Read Ephesians 2:11-17. In this passage, which two groups were brought together in peace because of what Jesus has done? How did Jesus accomplish this? How many people in the world are included in these two groups? What does this indicate is the only way true world peace can be attained? Why do you think other ways of attaining world peace have always failed?
4. What are the three keys to experiencing God's peace today that Pastor Rick shared? Which one resonates with you the most?
5. What worries are robbing you from enjoying peace this Christmas season? Read James 1:2-4. How could what these verses say change your perspective relating to the things you are worried about today? Could you have peace in spite of your worries? How?
6. It has been said by a number of people; "If you are not experiencing any struggles in this world, you are either not a Christian or not serving Christ". Do you think this is true? Read John 16:33. Do you think what Jesus said about troubles in this world confirms this saying? According to this verse, what can cause us to be cheerful and have peace in spite of the suffering we endure in this world?

ANSWERS

1. Let your members tell what they think, ultimately the world offers peace by removing difficulties but Christ enables us to have peace in the middle of our difficulties.
2. The three types of peace are: a. Spiritual peace; b. Emotional peace; and c. Relational peace. Spiritual peace occurs when you trust Christ as Savior. Emotional peace happens I surrender my life to Christ's control. Relational peace comes from being unified with other believers.
3. The two groups referred to here are the Jews and the Gentiles, which includes everyone on the planet because you are either a Jew or a Gentile. Jesus accomplished this by removing what had caused the division between the two groups: the mis-application of the law of Moses by the Jews to the gentiles. True world peace can only be attained by a unity that is produced within the body of Christ. Other methods of attaining peace are never successful because they never address the cause of disunity: the sinfulness of mankind, we cannot live in peace because we are sinful and our sinfulness always ruins peace.
4. The three keys are: a. Stay focused on God's love and perfect track record; b. Surrender my worries and anxieties to God in order to receive his peace; and c. Say "Jesus help me" today.
5. These verses tell us that our difficulties are not a curse, they are a requirement to spiritual growth. If you handle them correctly, all struggles will have a positive result in your life and this understanding should give you peace in the middle of them.
6. Christ promised struggles in this world, if you are not struggling with this world then you might not be a Christian or you might not be a growing Christian. At the very least, you should be having a struggle between your sinful nature and the Holy Spirit who lives within you. People of this world will attack us when we stand for the truth of God's word.