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### Have Some Fruit – Peace

**Galatians 5:22-23; Matthew 5:9; Matthew 13:31-32; Colossians 3:8-15; Romans 12:18;  
Matthew 12:30; John 16:33; Romans 3:21-22; Romans 1:17; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16;  
October 30, 2022**

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## DAILY DEVOTION

Find a rhythm in God's word this week! Follow this 5-day plan on your own or with your group!

<https://my.bible.com/am/reading-plans/19051>

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## INSPIRATION

The peace of God is not the absence of fear. It, in fact, is His presence – Tim Keller

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## ICE BREAKER

1. What is something that brings you peace?
  2. What does the presence and peace of God feel like, to you, in your life?
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## DEEP DIVE

### Read this out loud

An excerpt from the message this week:

“There were several more wars before the war of 1812 that lasted 3 years. I could go on and on, we as a nation don't know peace. And yet I think most of us want it. We really do. We want it as a nation, and as individuals. We want to be at peace. We want peace in our communities. We would like peace in our church. We want peace. But we struggle. It seems like we are better at violence than peace.

The Bible has a lot to say about peace. The word for peace in the Hebrew language is the word shalom. It means lacking in nothing, complete. When Solomon completed the temple, he brought shalom to it. When the prophet Isaiah looked forward to the coming Messiah, he described him as the Prince of Peace.”



**Read Matthew 5:9 and John 16:33 and then answer the following questions:**

3. Do you agree with the statement that we, as humans, are better at violence than peace? If that is a true statement, why are we better at violence than at peace?
4. How does Shalom (defined in the excerpt above) impact your understanding of peace? How does John 16:33 impact your understanding of peace?
5. In Matthew 5:9, God blesses those who work for peace. Blessed are the peacemakers. What does it take to become a peacemaker? Can everyone become a peacemaker or just certain people? Are you a peacemaker?

**Read this out loud**

An excerpt from the message this week:

“Not everyone will want to live in peace with you. You cannot control that. You can control how you respond. How you behave. How you drive. Perhaps the real problem as to why I don’t have much peace in my life. I am not at peace with God. You might even have sensed that.”

**Read Colossians 3:8-15 and Romans 12:18 and then answer the following questions:**

6. Are you at peace with God?
7. Is there something from the list given in Colossians 3:8-15 that you need to get rid of in your life so that the peace of Christ can rule your hearts?
8. **Read Colossians 3:13 and Romans 12:18 again.** What or who comes to mind when you read those verses? Who is someone that you need to forgive or make peace with? Who is a person that needs to hear and apology from you so that you can be at peace with them?

**Additional Study**

If you have time during your Small Group or you want to study more about the message topic, read and consider the following passages:

- Matthew 13:31-32
- Romans 3:21-22
- Philippians 4:6-7

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**NEXT STEPS**

9. Realizing Jesus is the source of peace, how will you develop a deeper relationship with Him this week?
10. What are some ways you can become a peacemaker this week with family, friends and coworkers?



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## PRAYER

1. Read Philippians 4:6-7. Pray for the peace of God that surpasses all understanding to guard the hearts and the minds of the person to your right.
2. Ask for specific prayer requests that involve Shalom, or that involve making peace with others this week

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## SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY

Establish a regular rhythm of serving together! Below are some service opportunities.

- BENSON - Serve with us at ABIDE every 2nd Saturday.
- MILLARD - Serve with us at Heartland Hope every 4th Saturday.
- FREMONT - Serve with us at LifeHouse every 4th Tuesday.
- OMAHA - Serve with us at Open Door Mission every 4th Saturday.
- Or get to know your community, are there any needs/volunteer opportunities?