

Study Guide

Scripture: Matthew 5.9

Study: Blessed is the Peacemaker

Speaker: Pastor Keith

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Objective: We want to build an outline for a peacemaker, so we can model our lives after those characteristics.

1. Peaceful _____: Matthew 5.9. Blessed are the *peacemakers*, for they shall be called *sons of God*. (NKJV)
 - ‘**Blessed....**’ - Jesus declares God’s favor (approval) and spiritual well-being on certain individuals
 - ‘are the **peacemakers....**’ Those who actively seek to restore broken relationships
 - ‘for they shall be **called sons of God.**’ You reflect on His character of resolving conflicts and living in harmony with others

Peacemaker: reflects God’s character by resolving conflicts and restoring relationships to live in harmony with others. Galatians 5.22

Core Belief: ‘I possess the spirit of peace as God’s peacemaker, actively pursuing reconciliation, and resolving conflicts in ways that bring people together and honor Him.’ 2 Corinthians 5.18

2. Peaceful _____: Romans 12.18. ‘If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men (people).’ (NKJV)

‘If it is possible’ – it takes two to have peace

‘As far as it **depends on you,**’ – you must do your part

‘live **peaceably** with all men (people). – pursue peace

All men – to actively seek peace with people who do not always agree with you or share your values, beliefs, or culture without compromising your convictions. John 17.15

A peacemaker **intentionally** pursues a peaceful path in reconciling relationships, taking responsibility for their part, and responding in a way that honors God. Hebrews 12.14

What it looks like – Pursue peace

What is it?

- Personality differences
- Preference differences
- Principle differences
- Process differences

What is required of me?

- Personality differences (requiring patience)
- Preference differences (requiring reflexivity)
- Principle differences (requiring truth and love)
- Process differences (requiring understanding)

What is the outcome I want?

- Move from separation to connection
- I want to be heard, understood, and accepted
- Understand the other person's perspective
- Ability to relate even though we disagree
- Release resentment, forgiveness, begin again with trust
- Restore relationship – glorify God

Peacemaker boundaries: You maintain appropriate boundaries, where each person's dignity, values, convictions, and conscience are honored, even without agreement.

Boundaries must be set:

- Unsaved: Become a friend, not a follower
- Friendships: Make a difference between essential and non-essential issues
- Marriage: Marriage comes before self
- Children: Love does not mean agreement and disagreement does not mean rejection
- Co-worker: maintain respectful communication
- Church member: respect, restraint, and recognize

3. Peaceful _____: a peacemaker heart rests in the peace of God. Philippians 4.6-7

Good News: Blessed is the Peacemaker

1. You can maintain relationships across *differences* without *compromising* your convictions. John 17.14-18
2. You can *experience* a *new heart* from the Holy Spirit that gives you a *desire* to *forgive* and *pursue* peace. Ezekiel 36.26-27
3. You can *experience* God's peace; He guards your heart and mind when you are going through difficult times in your relationships. Philippians 4.7