

FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT 9-WEEK STUDY

April 8: Peace

TEXT: Galatians 5:22-23

INTRO: We are about to study the third fruit of the Spirit. Many people think that they are to possess these fruits one at a time. They hear a message on love, so they work on being more loving. Then, they attend a Bible study on joy and it reminds them to be joyful. They stop worrying about love and start focusing on joy. Then, someone mentions they need to have peace. Joy takes a backseat while peace is made the new goal. It's not supposed to work that way. In fact, that makes it our work and our effort when this is supposed to be a partnership with the Spirit. The hard part is that this isn't about doing them one at a time, but we are to be demonstrating all of them all the time. Think of it like eating a fruit salad where all kinds of fruit are mixed in. This is only possible with the assistance of the Holy Spirit.

THE THIRD FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS PEACE

TEXT: Ephesians 2:13-14; Colossians 1:20; John 14:26-27; Philippians 4:6-7; Isaiah 26:3; Psalm 119:165; Colossians 3:15; Hebrews 12:14

DEFINITIONS: (Listen to the video to help you fill in the blanks.)

The Old Testament word for peace is _____. It means "a desire or prayer that all is well with you." The New Testament word of peace means "_____."

Peace is a tranquility of mind and heart regardless of the _____ of external circumstances or surrounding trouble. It is a supernatural calm that is _____ by the trials of life or this world. In the midst of everything in life, the Holy Spirit will produce a supernatural calm that is _____ and somewhat unruffled. Without this fruit, one will be continually disturbed and perturbed.

Peace is not the _____ of trouble; it is the _____ of Jesus and harmony with God's purposes.

DISCUSSION: (Look up the verses given and answer the questions/discuss)

- How did Jesus Christ make peace between us and God? (Eph. 2:13-14; Col. 1:20)
- What role does Jesus say the Holy Spirit will play in giving us peace? (John 14:26-27)
- How is God's peace different from the peace that the world gives? (John 14:27)
- How important is prayer and thanksgiving in the process of attaining peace? (Phil. 4:6-7; Col. 3:15)
- What are the two qualifications for attaining peace in Isaiah 26:3?
- What is the criteria for peace in Psalm 119:165? How will this affect our responses?
- How should our peace with God affect our reconciliation with others? (Hebrews 12:14)

DECISION:

God gives us peace with Himself. Peace within ourselves. And peace with other people. God to self, from self to self, from self to others. We need peace in our homes, in our church, and in our lives. People need to see that the Prince of Peace is the master of your life.

What do you plan to do this week to demonstrate the Spirit's fruit of peace?

Take some time to pray over the Wednesday prayer sheet attached to this Realm post.