

Youth Sunday School – God the Father and Peace – 9/27/20

- Fighter verse
- Prayer
- Briefly discuss New City Catechism and associated verse
 - Question 5: What else did God create? God created all things by his powerful Word, and all his creation was very good; everything flourished under his loving rule. (Genesis 1:31)
 - Question 6: How can we glorify God? We glorify God by enjoying him, loving him, trusting him, and by obeying his will, commands, and law. (Deuteronomy 11:1)
- Review Memory Verse List – Discuss one of them

Review

- Without looking, what is peace?
- What were some of the common themes of peace we saw in the Bible?
- **Definition: Peace is freedom from God's wrath and freedom from turmoil within ourselves and with others.**

The God of Peace

1. God is peace.

Judges 6:24 "Then Gideon built an altar there to the Lord and called it, The Lord Is Peace."

Romans 15:33 "May the God of peace be with you all."

- Peace is a God-like trait. God is peace and peaceful. Peace is who he is. Why might it be important that we serve a God of peace?

- What might God be like if he was not a god of peace? What if he was a god of war? Hate? fear? Disaster? Trouble? Confusion? Anxiety?

- Doesn't God make a lot of war? Doesn't he cause disasters? If he does some of these things how is he still a god of peace?

- How do we know that God is a God of peace?

2. God makes peace.

Job 25:2 "Dominion and fear are with God; he makes peace in his high heaven."

Colossians 1:19-20 "For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross."

- Where is God aiming to make peace?

- What happened that there is not peace right now?

- God takes the initiative to make peace. What does this mean?

- According to these verses, what are some things God has done, is doing, or will do to make peace? Why does doing each thing make peace?

- Has done > Hebrews 13:20 "the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus"

- Is doing > 1 Thessalonians 5:23 "Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

- What does sanctify mean?

- Will do > Romans 16:20 "The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet."

- With sin and Satan gone > Revelation 21:3-4 "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

3. God gives peace.

Psalm 83:1 "O God, do not keep silence; do not hold your peace or be still, O God!"

Romans 15:13 "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing"

Colossians 1:2 "Grace to you and peace from God our Father."

- True peace comes from God. In what ways does God give peace in...

...our relationship with him?

...our relationships with others?

...ourselves?

...our circumstances?

- Are there any ways that you have experienced God-given peace in some area of your life that has helped you in times of hate/war/fear/disaster/trouble/confusion/anxiety?

- Can we make ourselves be at peace? Do we still have a responsibility to pursue being at peace with God, with others and within ourselves?

- We must work the field, but no growth happens if God doesn't bring the rain. We must pray for God to work.

- What are some ways we could pray for God to bring peace?

- Prayer Requests

For Next Time: - Read Chapter 13 of Practice of Godliness, "Peace".

- Keep memorizing the verse you've chosen. Add another!

Peace Memory Verses (pick at least 1)

- Romans 12:18 "If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all."

- Romans 5:1 "Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

- Philippians 4:6-7 "do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

- Colossians 3:15 "And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body."

- Psalm 34:14 "Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it."

- Matthew 5:9 ""Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."

- Hebrews 12:14 "Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord."

Study Guide

- What were some of the common themes of peace we saw in the Bible? (God is a god of peace, God is the giver of peace, peace is the opposite of hate/war/fear/disaster/trouble/confusion/anxiety, Unbelievers need Jesus to be at peace with God, As Christians peace grows in us through the Bible, prayer and the Holy Spirit, We should strive to be at peace with everyone)

The God of Peace

1. God is peace.

- Why might it be important that we serve a God of peace? (if our God were not a god of peace we would only have fear/anxiety/confusion/turmoil towards him, we would have no expectation of a future of peace with him, God would not have taken the initiative to make peace with sinners > so we would have been eternally condemned, we would have no hope)

- What might God be like if he was not a god of peace? What if he was a god of war? Hate? fear? Disaster? Trouble? Confusion? Anxiety?

- Doesn't God make a lot of war? Doesn't he cause disasters? If he does some of these things how is he still a god of peace? (all of the actions that God has taken that look not peaceful were done to make peace [which he only had to do because of sin] > man destroyed peace by sinning so now God must make peace in some of these ways [for example, if someone is making war against your country sometimes the only way to peace is to make war with them which God does against Satan and sin], he may punish the wicked which gives peace to the righteous, he may cause bad things to happen in our lives that we would grow in peace [Hebrews 12:11 "grow the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it"], killing his Son on the cross to make peace with us [Colossians 1:20], God wouldn't have to take these measures to make peace if sin had not entered the world and corrupted it and separated us from God, all that God does is leading towards new heaven and earth where there is perfect peace)

- How do we know that God is a God of peace? (first and foremost **because he took the initiative to make peace with his enemies by sending Jesus to the cross**, his word says so, he always keeps his promises which include everlasting peace to his children, because of his actions in history and towards us today to make and give peace as we will now discuss, when God created the world there was complete peace before sin)

2. God makes peace.

- Where is God aiming to make peace? (everywhere, heaven and earth [Colossians 1:20])

- What happened that there is not peace right now? (sin, our sin corrupted all of creation and now needs to be made right)

- God takes the initiative to make peace. What does this mean? (God had to be the one to do it, man could not make peace because of our sin, we were hopelessly lost without God acting, God could only take the initiative to make peace because he is a God of peace)

- According to these verses, what are some things God has done, is doing, or will do to make peace? Why does doing each thing make peace?

- Has done > Hebrews 13:20 "the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus" (resurrected Jesus, this makes peace because now those who believe in Jesus can have peace with God)

- Is doing > 1 Thessalonians 5:23 "Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." (sanctify us, this makes peace because it is through sanctification that we are prepared for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ where we will be found blameless aka at peace with God)

- What does sanctify mean? (it means to little by little make us more like Jesus, it is the lifelong process by which we are changed)

- Will do > Romans 16:20 “The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.” (he will crush Satan, this makes peace because Satan is the enemy of peace whose only aim is to steal and kill and destroy)

- With sin and Satan gone > Revelation 21:3-4 “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.” (he is preparing a place for us where he will dwell with us and bring perfect peace forever, with sin and Satan gone this is what it will be)

3. God gives peace.

- True peace comes from God. In what ways does God give peace in...

...our relationship with him? (freedom from the wrath of God through Jesus Christ)

...our relationships with others? (teaches us how to act towards others in ways that promote peace, gives us the ability to actually live in peace with other, etc.)

...ourselves? (works in us through His Spirit to actually instill peace in us and grow us in peace, leads us through trials that make us grow in peace [Hebrews 12:11], teaches us about Himself through the Bible that promotes peace because he is peace, gives us peace through prayer, etc.)

...our circumstances? (teaches us how to act in circumstances in ways that produce peace, gives peace through the Word and prayer, miraculously intervenes in relationship [especially ones we have prayed for] to give peace, etc.)

- Are there any ways that you have experienced God-given peace in some area of your life that has helped you in times of hate/war/fear/disaster/trouble/confusion/anxiety?

- Can we make ourselves be at peace? (no, peace is given to us from God) Do we still have a responsibility to pursue being at peace with God, with others and within ourselves? (yes)