



Sermon Discussion Guide for Cumberland Fellowship Church Sermon Series: I Choose: Week 6 (November 5, 2023)

This guide is a supplement to the weekly sermon. We encourage families and groups to use it. When we hear God's Word, we need to do more than listen. The bible says, "Be doers of the word, not hearers only" (James 1:22). **Step 1: GATHER** with your family or group. **Step 2: REVIEW** and **DISCUSS** the key points and scriptures from the sermon. **Step 3: PRAY** for the prayer requests shared by your family or group.

DISCUSSION STARTER

Do you have peace between yourself and God? Explain. Why did Jesus come? One of Jesus' names is "Prince of _____." How would you tell a lost person how they could personally have peace with God? What does the gospel bring?

DIGGING DEEPER 1

Read John 14:27; Romans 5:1. Using a good Bible Study tool like *Bible Hub* (biblehub.com) or *Blue Letter Bible* (blueletterbible.org), study through this scripture before responding to the following questions. Jesus' peace is different than what the world gives. What is the difference? Pastor Sam said, "The world offers peace through escape, through distractions, to avoid trouble." How do we escape? How do we distract? How does the world's peace ignore the root of the problem? What does having "peace with God" in verse 1 of Romans chapter 5 mean to you personally? What words would you use to describe what the opposite of peace with God would be like? How have we been made right with God? What does 5:1 reveal a believer in Christ has, because of their being justified by faith in Christ? Why do you think God wanted us to know this? What difference does it make knowing this? Would it make any difference if we didn't know this? Note: "peace with God" means removal of all hostility. Complete and permanent reconciliation and friendship. What does Ephesians 2:12-15 tell us about how God enabled sinners to be at peace with him? What does Jesus say about this in John 14:6?

DIGGING DEEPER 2

Read John 16:33. Using a good Bible Study tool like *Bible Hub* (biblehub.com) or *Blue Letter Bible* (blueletterbible.org), study through this scripture. What things has John told us? Does Jesus give us peace, or does He offer us peace? Why is this important to understand? Peace is pursued not given. What are we pursuing? What is the source of true peace? What is Jesus telling us? Fear is the devourer of peace. We must we do in order to find peace? What are the two biggest things that are robbing you of peace at this moment? Where right now is the world bringing tribulation in your life? Spend some time in passages like 2 Corinthians 4:5-18 and Romans 8:31-39 – How does the truth of Christ conquering on our behalf encourage you to take heart, have peace, and rejoice in the face of tribulation? In what ways can you view your current difficulties "in reverse" with the knowledge of the promised victory that God will one day work through them? How can you apply John 16:33 to your life?

DIGGING DEEPER 3

Read Psalm 27:3; Philippians 4:6-7. Using a good Bible Study tool like *Bible Hub* (biblehub.com) or *Blue Letter Bible* (blueletterbible.org), study through this scripture. If God is the source of our strength, then what are we living in fear of? What does the word anxious mean? What do we all have a tendency to do when we overly care? What is the solution to this? How do we bring every situation to God? How can we bring our anxieties and worries to God with thanksgiving? What happens when our first reaction is to come to God with a care and concern and surrender control of that situation by bringing it before Him with a thankful heart because of the grace he has already given you in life? What does "guard" mean? What are we accomplishing by coming before God and presenting our request and letting go of control?

DOING THE WORD

Share your testimony of God's awesome peace with others! Pray for all in this, and any, season of change and busyness that peace can win and reign! In that, let HIM be glorified!