

05-17-2024 Lessons from the Berry Patch #5 Peace Boots

If you don't wear your boots in the berry patch, you will be worrying about snakes all day long... Dora the Explorer

My #1 essential piece of gear for the Berry Patch is my trusty pair of rubber boots. Regular shoes are OK if you are just going to pick around the edges, but if you are going to plunge headlong into the patch, you'd better have your boots on. Bootless pickers have to spend too much time, energy and effort planning their steps and watching for snakes and mud holes.

Lord, You mentioned our footwear when You told us to put on the "whole armor of God" in Galatians 6. You told us to "have our feet shod with the preparation of the Gospel of Peace."

We live in a world that tries to steal our peace every day. As servants of the Prince of Peace we must be prepared with peace each day as we enter the Berry Patch. How can we be "instruments of peace" if we do not possess that peace ourselves?

So just where does peace come from?

In Chapter 2 of Ephesians we read this:

¹⁴For Christ himself has brought peace to us. He united Jews and Gentiles into one people when, in his own body on the cross, he broke down the wall of hostility that separated us. ¹⁵He did this by ending the system of law with its commandments and regulations. He made peace between Jews and Gentiles by creating in himself one new people from the two groups. ¹⁶Together as one body, Christ reconciled both groups to God by means of his death on the cross, and our hostility toward each other was put to death.

¹⁷He brought this Good News of peace to you Gentiles who were far away from him, and peace to the Jews who were near. ¹⁸Now all of us can come to the Father through the same Holy Spirit because of what Christ has done for us. ^{NLT}

OK, so we are not personally caught in the, "Jews vs Gentiles" struggle. We see it in the news and it saddens us. But we do have challenges in our lives

that steal our peace. Jesus is the one who gave His life so that peace is possible for all people. There is an old saying that I like:

Know Jesus, know peace. No Jesus, no peace.

After all He is called the, “Prince of Peace.”

We probably know some of those folks who don’t know Jesus, but are crusaders for peace. And they will have peace if they have to beat you up, insult you or even kill you!!!

Being a follower of Jesus means true peace. That inner attitude that gives us the power to, “turn the other cheek” (Matthew 5:39).

Peace that gives us the power to, “love and pray for our enemies.” (Matthew 6:43-48).

Peace that overcomes our fear, “I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don’t be troubled or afraid. (John 14:27).

Are you fearful and angry inside? The cure is to make Jesus Christ your absolute Lord and pattern your life after His.

Remind us Lord, each day, to put on those “peace boots” and walk in the peace of God that passes all understanding. Let us put on those Peace Boots and be prepared by the “Gospel of Peace” so that we can share that Good News with those we meet in the Berry Patch.



Who knew those old beat-up boots were Peace Boots??!!! I'll bet you have a pair as well. Wear them!

In Jesus Name We Pray,

Amen.