

Full Sermon is [\[HERE\]](#) for audio only at this time.

**Sermon Summary**  
**February 18, 2024**

**Matthew 5:9**  
**Peacemaker – Where Conduct Follows Character**

Worldly peace is a pseudo peace is more akin to appeasement or “a-no-conflict-at-any-cost” approach. It delivers the facsimile of peace clothed in a lack of direct conflict; yet it does nothing to address the underlying motivations that continue to simmer just below the surface always threatening to erupt. #FindPeace #Find Healing #FakePeace

There are three dimensions of peace, with God, with oneself, and with others. The final two depend on the first. #PeaceWithGod #PeaceWithin

Biblical peace isn’t just the absence of conflict, but the active and eternal presence of Godly hope. #PeaceWithHope #AbidingInChrist

Reconciliation and wholeness are outworking’s of the peace of God. #Healing #Reconciliation #MadeComplete

"To be a peacemaker is to don the armor of God, acknowledging that truth can be polarizing and peace may not always be attainable." #ArmorOfGod #Peacemaking

"Submission brings victory marked by God's peace." #VictoryInSubmission #GodsPeace

"We must be intentional in becoming peacemakers, transforming peace from a noun to a verb in our lives." #IntentionalPeacemaking #PeaceAsVerb

"Seek Christ, from whom peace naturally flows, rather than pursuing peace as an end in itself." #SeekChrist #EternalPeace

**Overview**

Have you ever felt an urge deep within, a call to be more than just a bystander in a world filled with discord? Our latest episode delves into the essence of being a peacemaker in the Christian tradition, journeying beyond mere conflict avoidance to embrace the peace of Christ as a transformative force in our lives. We're unpacking the beatitudes, sharing narratives of personal transformation, and examining how peacemakers are not only blessed but are actively engaged in nurturing peace with God, within themselves, and with others. It's plumbing the depths of how the Holy Spirit shapes our quest for biblical peace and how our identity as God's children intertwines with our calling to be peacemakers in our day and in our community.

As we navigate the tumultuous terrain of our desires versus our spiritual duties, we confront the cultural epidemic of 'me-itis'—the relentless pursuit of self-interest over Christ-centered living. Our discourse challenges the misconception of meekness as weakness, advocating for the strength found in aligning with God's will. We tackle the thorny issues of offense and personal rights, urging a lifestyle of sacrificial love and highlighting the stark distinction between the fleeting peace offered by the world and the deep, abiding tranquility that comes from submitting to the leaders of our Lord, Jesus.

Concluding our conversation, we turn our attention to Jesus Christ, the prince of peace, who exemplifies and imparts the truest form of peace—wholeness and reconciliation. We invite you to join us in embracing the active role of being peacemakers, embodying the virtues of selflessness, love, and humility, and finding solace in the chaos, not by evasion but through an earnest pursuit of Christ. In this, Jesus is inspiring, equipping, and challenging you to be a beacon of peace, reflecting the eternal hope and righteousness in a world longing for true resolution.

#Peacemaker #Christian #Conflict #Beatitudes #Transformation #Sanctification  
#Surrender #Offense #SacrificialLove #JesusChrist #Reconciliation #Peace

### **Some of Many Takeaways for the Week**

1. Peacemaking is not merely an external action but a reflection of the inner peace of Christ that transforms a believer's conduct.
2. The sermon unpacks the three dimensions of peace: with God, within oneself, and with others, emphasizing the Holy Spirit's role in achieving this.
3. The beatitudes are pivotal in understanding the character of a peacemaker, emphasizing the virtues of selflessness, love, and humility.
4. Jesus Christ exemplifies true peace, which involves wholeness and the restoration of what's broken...mankind's separation from God
5. The sermon confronts the issue of 'me-itis' and the challenge of aligning personal desires with spiritual duties.

### **Questions for Consideration and Prayer**

1. Reflecting on Matthew 5:9, where Jesus states, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God," how can we actively embody the role of peacemaker in our daily lives? What are some practical steps we can take to transform from being peace "lovers" to peace "makers"?

2. In the sermon, the concept of "me-itis" was introduced, highlighting the challenge of self-interest over Christ-centered living. How can Philippians 2:3-4, which encourages us to "do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit," guide us in combating the tendency of putting ourselves before others?
3. Discuss the three dimensions of peace—peace with God, peace within oneself, and peace with others—as mentioned in the sermon. How can we use Romans 12:18, "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone," to navigate conflicts and maintain harmony?
4. The sermon touched on the difference between fleeting worldly peace and the deep, abiding peace that comes only from our abiding relationship in Christ. How can John 14:27, where Jesus speaks of peace not as the world gives, shape our understanding of the peace that surpasses all understanding?
5. In the sermon, we are reminded that peace is more than the absence of conflict—it is about active engagement and restoration. What lessons can we draw from Hebrews 12:14, "Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy," in terms of our responsibility as Christians to pursue and promote peace?
6. The sermon concludes with an invitation to seek Christ for eternal peace. Reflect on Colossians 3:15, which calls us to let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts. How can this verse encourage us to find solace in Christ amidst the chaos of the world?
7. In what ways does the Beatitude, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God" (Matthew 5:9), challenge our understanding of peace as Christians? How can we actively live out this calling in our daily interactions?
8. How can we apply the advice given to the young man in the sermon—to surrender to God's will on God's terms—within our own spiritual journeys? Discuss the role of surrender in experiencing God's peace, as illustrated in Proverbs 3:5-6.
9. Discuss the significance of Psalm 85:10, which poetically intertwines mercy, truth, righteousness, and peace. How do these virtues work together to create a holistic understanding of Biblical peace?