

SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia @10:10 Message...

God our Peace (Yahweh Shalom)

With Gerrit Nieuwoudt
Sept. 1, 2019



Judges 6: 11-24 (God meets with Gideon)

Then the angel of the Lord came and sat beneath the great tree at Ophrah, which belonged to Joash of the clan of Abiezer. Gideon son of Joash was threshing wheat at the bottom of a winepress to hide the grain from the Midianites. ¹² The angel of the Lord appeared to him and said, "Mighty hero (or mighty warrior), the Lord is with you!" ¹³ "Sir," Gideon replied, "if the Lord is with us, why has all this happened to us? And where are all the miracles our ancestors told us about? Didn't they say, 'The Lord brought us up out of Egypt'? But now the Lord has abandoned us and handed us over to the Midianites." ¹⁴ Then the Lord turned to him and said, "Go with the strength you have, and rescue Israel from the Midianites. I am sending you!" ¹⁵ "But Lord," Gideon replied, "how can I rescue Israel? My clan is the weakest in the whole tribe of Manasseh, and I am the least in my entire family!" ¹⁶ The Lord said to him, "I will be with you. And you will destroy the Midianites as if you were fighting against one man." ¹⁷ Gideon replied, "If you are truly going to help me, show me a sign to prove that it is really the Lord speaking to me." ¹⁸ Don't go away until I come back and bring my offering to you." He answered, "I will stay here until you return."

¹⁹ Gideon hurried home. He cooked a young goat, and with a basket of flour he baked some bread without yeast. Then, carrying the meat in a basket and the broth in a pot, he brought them out and presented them to the angel, who was under the great tree. ²⁰ The angel of God said to him, "Place the meat and the unleavened bread on this rock and pour the broth over it." And Gideon did as he was told. ²¹ Then the angel of the Lord touched the meat and bread with the tip of the staff in his hand, and fire flamed up from the rock and consumed all he had brought. And the angel of the Lord disappeared. ²² When Gideon realized that it was the angel of the Lord, he cried out, "Oh, Sovereign Lord, I'm doomed! I have seen the angel of the Lord face to face!" ²³ "It is all right," the Lord replied. "Do not be afraid. You will not die."

²⁴ **And Gideon built an altar to the Lord there and named it Yahweh-Shalom (which means "the Lord is peace").** The altar remains in Ophrah in the land of the clan of Abiezer to this day.

- **The peace the world offers is deceptive and fleeting.**

There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death . (Proverbs 14:12)

- **The peace God offers is permanent and secure.**

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)

Big Idea: Welcome God's presence into your life so you can experience His Shalom peace.

St. Augustine: "God alone is the place of peace that cannot be disturb".

What steps can you take?

- 1) **Pray and welcome God's presence into your life.**
- 2) **Remove "idols" from your life.**
- 3) **Stand on God's Word.**

Prayer: Lord I long for peace, the peace that only you can give. Please help me to pray for peace throughout the world and peace within my own heart. Help me to do things I need to do in order to experience true shalom. Amen

The Translation of the Bible Scriptures used in today's 10:10 service are from the New Living Translation (NLT).



**Sequoia Impact Communities are where we
live out our identity as a
Family of Servants on Mission.**

To get plugged in email:

impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org

**God our Peace
#9 of 10 — Sept. 1, 2019**

1) Take some time to discuss how your IC has been and will live out the Kingdom of Jesus together.

- In what ways have we been living like family recently? How will we live out our family identity in the coming week?
- How have we lived as servants to one another or to our world this past week? What needs or opportunities to serve is God asking us to lean into?
- How have we lived on mission where we live, work, play, or went this past week? Who do we know that needs to hear the good news of Jesus?

2) How did the message resonate with you? What questions or comments did it raise for you?

3) What comes to mind when you think about the idea of shalom or peace?

4) Do you struggle with worry and fear? Why? How does it impact the decisions you make about the way you live your life?

5) Read Judges 6:11-24. What does this tell us about God and what does it tell us about ourselves?

6) Read Philippians 4:4-9. What do you find interesting or challenging about this passage? What implications does it have for you today?

7) Reflect on Isaiah 9:6-7 and John 14:27. How does your relationship with Jesus bring peace into your life?

8) As you consider God as *Yahweh Shalom*, what next step is God asking you to take? What will be different in your life in light of the fact that God is *Yahweh Shalom*?

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