

## SEQUOIA NOTES

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

#### Finding Peace in our Struggles

With Jeremy Vasic

Multiplication & Mobilization Catalyst

December 6, 2020

Advent - Peace



Luke 2:8-20 That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep.<sup>9</sup> Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified,<sup>10</sup> but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people."<sup>11</sup> The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David!<sup>12</sup> And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger."<sup>13</sup> Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God and saying,<sup>14</sup> "Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased."<sup>15</sup> When the angels had returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let's go to Bethlehem! Let's see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."<sup>16</sup> They hurried to the village and found Mary and Joseph. And there was the baby, lying in the manger.<sup>17</sup> After seeing him, the shepherds told everyone what had happened and what the angel had said to them about this child.<sup>18</sup> All who heard the shepherds' story were astonished,<sup>19</sup> but Mary kept all these things in her heart and thought about them often.<sup>20</sup> The shepherds went back to their flocks, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. It was just as the angel had told them.

**Peace is a gift that is given.**

**Peace defies our circumstances.**

Philippians 4:6-7 Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done.<sup>7</sup> Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

**Peace is found in a person.**

Isaiah 9:6-7 For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.<sup>7</sup> His government and its peace will never end. He will rule with fairness and justice from the throne of his ancestor David for all eternity. The passionate commitment of the Lord of Heaven's Armies will make this happen!

**Big Idea: Receive the gift of peace through new life in Jesus.**

**Prayer is a tangible way to live out the new life we have in Jesus.**

**Glorify God by blessing the world.**

This week's Missional Challenge: Blessing healthcare workers.



**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**

**Finding Peace in our Struggles  
#2 of 5 - December 6, 2020**

- 1) Which "promise" from the 100 Days of Impact was most significant for you this week and why? Where have you seen God working as you engage with the weekly Missional Challenges?
- 2) How did the message resonate with you? What questions or comments did it raise for you?
- 3) How would you define peace? How do you feel like you experience peace in your life?
- 4) Read Luke 2:8-20. How does this signify the coming of peace? What do you feel as you think about this scene?
- 5) What is significant about the angels appearing to the shepherds to make the announcement of Jesus' birth? How does this affect the announcement appearing as a gift?
- 6) Read Philippians 4:6-7. How do you see peace defined in this passage? How does this peace defy our circumstances?
- 7) Read Isaiah 9:6-7. How is peace revealed in a person? How do you think it's possible for you to find your peace in Jesus through all circumstances?
- 8) What step will you take this week to find peace in the Advent of Jesus Christ?
- 9) In what ways can you extend peace to others and glorify God his Christmas season as individuals and as an IC family?

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