

STUDY GUIDE

Missing Peace: Help! These People Are Driving Me Crazy

Romans 12:1–2, 14–18

1. Opening Reflection

Some people make peace seem impossible. Think of someone who currently challenges your peace. What emotions surface when you think about them?

2. Real Peace Begins with a Different Kind of You (Romans 12:1–2)

Paul teaches that peace in relationships begins with inner transformation.

Discuss:

- Where do you see “patterns of this world” (defensiveness, retaliation, scorekeeping) showing up in your relationships?
- What does it look like to offer yourself to God in a difficult relational moment?

3. Peaceful People Don’t Just React—They Respond (Romans 12:14)

“Bless those who persecute you.”

Discuss:

- Why is it easier to mirror hurtful behavior than to respond with blessing?
- Which of the following is hardest for you: restraining tone, holding words, refusing to escalate, praying instead of reacting?

4. Peace Grows When Empathy Flows (Romans 12:15–16)

Empathy means entering another’s emotional world.

Discuss:

- Why is it hard to empathize with difficult people?
- Share a time when understanding someone’s backstory changed your reaction.
- How might empathy help you see a current conflict differently?

5. Peace Is Possible... but It Won’t Always Depend on You (Romans 12:17–18)

“As far as it depends on you...”

Discuss:

- What is and is not your responsibility in a tense or strained relationship?
- Where do you need boundaries so you can live at peace?

6. Bottom Line

Peace doesn’t start with fixing them—it starts with God transforming me.

7. Practical Next Steps

1. Identify “that” person and pray for them by name.
2. Renew your mind before you respond: pause, breathe, pray.
3. Bless them in one small, intentional way.
4. Release what you cannot control.

8. Closing Prayer

“Lord, transform me before I attempt to fix anyone else. Form in me a Jesus-shaped posture so I can bring Your peace into my relationships. Amen.”