<u>LIFE ON PURPOSE – Let Peace Rule in Our Lives – Week 4</u>

[Quick review of the series so far...**Slide 1**]

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What are you looking for spiritually?

#1 answer (40% of people): "Peace" – 2023 Barna Research Project

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Colossians 1:19-20 (NIV)

For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to <u>reconcile</u> to <u>himself all things</u>, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by <u>making peace</u> through his blood, shed on the cross.

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• Pax Romana: Rome's gift to the world –The peace of Rome

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Colossians 3:15-17 (NIV)

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

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And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

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"If the the peace of Christ rules your heart, it will also govern your actions"

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"Peaceful people are powerful people." -Joyce Meyer

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"Peace is not the absence of something, but the presence of someone" -Bill Johnson

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"If the peace of Christ is to rule, we must give up control of things we can do nothing about"

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The peace of Christ rules when it's placed above our emotions and desires.

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Shalom (Hebrew word for peace) is not an abstract feeling—it means wholeness, well-being, and human flourishing that only comes from God.

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How Does Peace Rule in Our Lives?

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1) We first come under the authority/rule of Jesus.

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John 14:27 (NIV)

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

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2) We prioritize being thankful.

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Matthew 11:28-29 (NIV)

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

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3) We take practical steps to live in peace.

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Philippians 4:6-7 (NIV)

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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What can I do today?

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Reframe your perspective to line up with God's Word.

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Regulate negative emotions.

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• Change your environment.

{Slide 24}■ Consistently sing & worship.