



The fruit of the Spirit is LOVE, JOY, PEACE, PATIENCE, KINDNESS, GOODNESS, FAITHFULNESS, GENTLENESS & SELF-CONTROL.

GALATIANS 5:22-23

#### **PEACE**



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- Research in education:
- What brings you peace?
- What keeps you from having peace?

#### **PEACE**

- Three types of peace
- Peace with God
- Peace with ourselves
- Peace with others

- Jerry Bridges, "The Fruitful Life"

#### PEACE WITH GOD

• Prior to becoming a Christian:

"At one time you were separated from God. You were enemies in your minds because of your evil ways."

Col 1:21

"The sinful mind is at war with God. It does not obey God's law. It can't. Those who are controlled by their sinful nature can't *please* God." Rom 8:7,8

## ISAIAH 57:19-21

"I will give *perfect* peace to those who are far away and those who are near. And I will heal them, says the Lord.

But those who are evil are like the rolling sea. It never rests. Its waves toss up mud and sand. There is no peace for those who are evil, says my God."



#### **PEACE WITH GOD**

• God is pursuing us:

"The Son of Man (Jesus) came to look for the lost and save them." Luke 19:10

"People of Israel, call your brothers My People. And call your sisters My Loved Ones." Hosea 2:1

#### **PEACE WITH GOD**

• Once we give our life to Christ and accept him as Savior:

"We have been made right with God because of our faith. Now we have peace with Him because of our Lord Jesus Christ." Rom 5:1

#### **REASONS WE MAY LACK PEACE WITH GOD**

- Separation from God?
- Sin? Conflict?
- Fear? Anxiety?
- Looking for *answers/deliverance* instead of peace?

"I have told you these things, so that you can have peace because of me. In this world you will have trouble. But cheer up! I have won the battle over the world." John 16:33

## **PEACE WITH OURSELVES**

- Experience self-loathing? (Hate yourself)
- Feel unworthy?
- Feel guilt? Shame? Regret?

"Aren't two sparrows sold for only a penny? But not one of them falls to the ground without your Father knowing it. He even counts every hair on your head! So don't be afraid. You are worth more than many sparrows." Matt 10: 29-31

## **PEACE WITH OTHERS**



#### PEACE WITH OTHERS

- Peacemakers Review- the Four G's:
- Glorify God
- Get the log out of your own eye
- Gently restore
- Go and be reconciled

"Let the peace that Christ gives rule in your hearts. As parts of one body, you were appointed to live in peace. And be thankful." Col 3:15

#### REASONS WE MAY NOT BE AT PEACE WITH OTHERS

- Is the "log" blocking our vision? (Pride)
- Contentment issues? Jealousy?
- Is there a "burr" under our saddle that we secretly enjoy?
- Are we willing to "go and be reconciled?"
- Is our ultimate goal to glorify God?

## MOSES & THE ISRAELITES

- Exodus 14:
- Just left Egypt and a life of slavery
- Egyptians pursued and Israelites were terrified
- "Why did you bring us to the desert to die? Weren't there any graves in Egypt?"

Moses: The LORD will fight for you. Just be still. Ex 14:14

## **EXODUS 14:14 MSG BIBLE**

"God will fight the battle for you. And you? You keep your mouths shut!"

#### PEACE AT ALL COST?

- Should I allow myself to be abused to "keep the peace?"
- Do I never express my opinion on things, and always allow others to get their way?

"If possible, live in peace with everyone. Do that as much as you can." Rom 12:18

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## **LOOKING FOR PEACE?**

- Turn your life over to Christ
- Examine your motives- looking for peace or answers?
- Ask the Holy Spirit to bring you peace- He gives it to you (A fruit of the Spirit)
- Bring worries to God in thankful prayer
- Resist the devil and thoughts he brings into your life (doubts, jealously, mistrust, selfishness)