

Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Series: **UPSIDE DOWN** – *The Beatitudes* – Matthew 5:1-12

Message: **Part 7 – Reconciling Relationships** - Matthew 5:9

December 15, 2019. Speaker: Shawn Vandop – Lead Pastor



Connect (15-20min) – share refreshments.

Watch: *The Shepherd* – (20min pilot episode) from *The Chosen* Series, based on Luke 2. <https://youtu.be/IVt14Ug-GOs>

“What makes the Good News so good is we aren’t.” – Andy Stanley

“God sent His Son to provide rescue and forgiveness for those who had ignored His existence and rebelled against His rule. That’s Grace!” – Paul David Tripp

“The central miracle asserted by Christians is the Incarnation. They say that God became human. Every other miracle prepares for this, or exhibits this, or results from this.” – C.S. Lewis

“**Don’t be afraid!** For I have come to bring you good news, the most joyous news the world has ever heard! And it is for everyone everywhere! For today in Bethlehem a Rescuer was born for you. He is the Lord Yahweh, the Messiah”

– Angel ([Luke 2:10-11](#), TPT)

Open in Prayer Together

Sunday Message Discussion (35-40min)

- Invite one person read the Beatitudes in [Matthew 5:1-12](#) & another person to open in Prayer:**
 - Has anyone memorized this passage (even verses 3-10) through the series? Share with the group.
 - Which of the 8 Beatitudes has impacted you the most this series, and how?
- Read [Matthew 5:9](#) -- *God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called the children of God..*
The BIG IDEA: A Peacemaker faces conflict with grace & truth.
Message Feedback: Share your initial feedback on Sunday’s Message. *What impacted you the most and why?**
- Peacemaker or Troublemaker?**
 - Would others have considered you a peacemaker or a troublemaker while you were growing up?
Has this changed over the years, and how?
 - Can you think of any *Troublemakers* who became *Peacemakers*? (In the Bible or in your life experience)
 - Where do you tend to *find peace* in your life?
- Shalom – “Peace”**
 - (Optional)** Watch [The Bible Project Word Study: Shalom – “Peace”](#) on YouTube. (3min)
 - When you think of the Words *Peace* and *Peacemaker* what comes to mind?
 - Is there a difference between a PEACEMAKER & a PEACEKEEPER?
- Read Matthew 18:15-17 – *Jesus teaches on dealing with conflict.***
 - Have you ever followed this advice from Jesus when it comes to conflict and unrest in your relationships?
 - What do you think would be the result in your life if you followed His instructions from this passage of Scripture?

6. The Prince of Peace & His Peacemakers

*Read [Isaiah 9:6](#) – What does it mean that The Messiah (Jesus) is the *Prince of Peace*?

- a. What is so profound about that title and role for JESUS? How does this impact our identity as His disciples?
- b. What does Jesus say is the blessing for being a peace maker? Does this sound strange to you?
- c. What do you think it means to be “called children of God.”?
- d. Shawn talked about the idea that if you are not seeking to be a peacemaker then you do not look like your Father in heaven. How is this true?

7. Read [Ephesians 2:13-18](#)

- a. How does the blood of Jesus impact how we become peacemakers? Why is it so important? Discuss.
- b. Read [Romans 14:19](#) & [1 Peter 3:11](#) - How is Peacemaking a proactive choice and responsibility?

Application (5min)

God has blessed us with His peace and wants us to be present to it. He wants us to carry His peace to others, especially in this chaotic world.

1. What is one commitment that this group can make together to carry God’s peace to others this week?

2. Read [John 16:33](#)

(To explore further: <http://www.openbible.info/topics/peacemakers> / http://www.openbible.info/topics/children_of_god)

3. Thank the Lord for His work & promise of Peace/Shalom in your life, and the privilege of being a Peacemaker for Him.

4. Encourage & Pray for another person in this area this week.

Prayer (20min)

>> **Based on our topic and discussion let’s Share our requests, Praise God together, and Pray for one another.**

***Pray for the person on your left in these three areas:**

1. Pray for their Personal Faith & spiritual growth
2. Pray for their Relationships
3. Pray for their Focus (work/school...)

Announcements

*Our NEXT LIFE GROUP MEETING: DATE / TIME / LOCATION. SNACK DUTY: _____.

Christmas Season at Main Street Church

Sun. December 22 : Christmas Sweater Sunday

Wear your festive swag.

9am & 10:45am

Tue. December 24 : Christmas Eve Services

3pm / 4:30pm / 6pm (1hr)

Sun. December 29 : Worship & Communion

9am & 10:45am

January 2020

PrayFirst 2020 – Our Annual 21 Days of Prayer & Fasting: January 6-26

ALPHA Course

Explore the Christian faith in an engaging & interactive environment. Invite your friends & family!

Mondays. January 13-March 16. 7pm-8:30pm. Main Street Chapel.+ Alpha Saturday. Feb. 29. 9am-2pm.

[Alpha Film Series Trailer](#) (on YouTube). Visit <https://mainstreetchurch.ca/alpha> for more Info & Registration.