

“The First Step to Experiencing A Perfect Peace”

John 14:5-6

For God So Loved the World – John, Part 2

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Circle any of the following ways that you attempted to experience “peace of mind.” Meditation, finding an “inner light,” chakras, a spirit guide, crystals, herbs, religion, Buddhism, Yoga, breath work, float tanks, mindfulness, kind self-talk...

The point is that we _____ desire inner peace!

“Pastor, I already learned how to experience an inner calm and tranquility in the midst of this chaotic world.” That’s great. Yet if you’re self-aware enough, you may have realized that there is something yet to be had regarding inner peace.

- Something more than a fleeting state of mind. Rather, a _____ that is complete, and not lacking anything... ever.

John 14:5-6... V 5, Thomas takes the _____, which prompts Jesus to share the most consequential truth ever uttered.

“I am the _____, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.” – Jesus in Jn 14:6

It goes without saying that this truth is deserving of some clarification!

- When Jesus said, “I am the Way,” He’s saying that a personal relationship with Him alone _____ us to God.
- Jesus is also saying that He is *the* Way and the _____ Way. (Jn 14:6; 1 Ti 2:5; Ac 4:12)
 - For many, this is _____ and unacceptable!

Using the analogy of a smoke-filled building, I’ll explain three reasons why people _____ this truth.

1. “Not sure if there is a fire *cough*! If so, I’ll escape because I’m a good person.” (Rom 3:23; Tit 3:5; Eph 2:9)
2. “A fire doesn’t even exist *cough, cough*!” (Mt 25:31-46; 2 Thes 1:5-10)
3. “Yep, there’s a fire. There’s also many ways of escape.” (Jn 14:6; 1 Ti 2:5; Ac 4:12)

If you embrace one of these reasons... to NOT believe Jesus’s claim, then you cannot experience peace! *“Why is that?”*

BECAUSE JESUS IS THE _____ OF INNER PEACE! (Isa 9:6; Lk 1:76; Phil 4:6-7; Isa 26:3; Jn 14:27)

If you’re not experiencing Jesus’s peace... then this message is _____. (Heb 10:27) *But it doesn’t have to be!*

The first step in experiencing Jesus’s peace is to accept His offer of RESCUE.

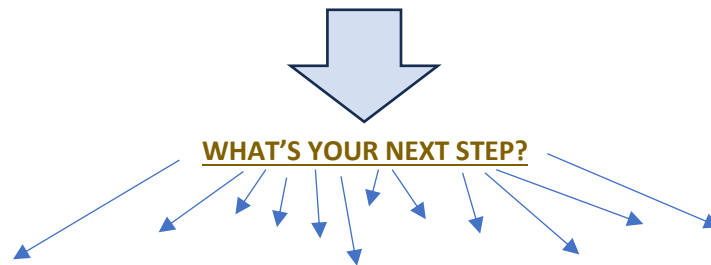
- A _____ that you’re a sinner in need of rescue. (Isa 64:6; Rom 3:23; 6:23a; Rom 10:9)
B _____ that Jesus died to pay the penalty for your sin. (Rom 5:8)
C _____ to stop living for yourself and start living for Him. (Eph 2:8-10)

TURN OVER TO LEARN HOW TO ACCEPT JESUS’S OFFER OF RESCUE

To accept Jesus's offer of rescue is to accept Him into your heart. (Rev 3:20) Want to pray?

Dear God, I know that I'm a sinner and that there is no way, based on my goodness, that I can go to heaven. Because You are holy and cannot be in the presence of sin. I also understand that You are just and that sin cannot go unpunished. Thank you from the bottom of my heart, Jesus. Out of Your great love for me, You went to the cross and was punished in my place so that I can be forgiven of all my sin. I accept Your offer of forgiveness. Please come into my heart and teach me how to be an obedient learner and follower of You all my days. In Jesus name I pray, amen.

Congratulations! Now, the Prince of Peace lives in your heart and, come what may, you can experience *a perfect peace* in the midst of this chaotic world.



Visit a Growth Group this week?

Schedule in a counseling appointment?

Text the church with a prayer request?

Get baptized?

Go to the Pastor's Dessert on Sunday, June 16th?

Take the spiritual gifts assessment?

Attend the Prayer Meeting this Saturday, May 25th?

Schedule in a deliverance session?

Attend the next men's/women's/youth meeting?

Sign up for the membership class?

Volunteer to serve in a ministry?

Provide your contact info?

TEXT THE CHURCH OFFICE RIGHT NOW AT 414-400-8320 AND TELL ME YOUR NEXT STEP. WE'LL REPLY AND HELP YOU!

GOING DEEPER QUESTIONS FOR "THE FIRST STEP TO EXPERIENCEING A PERFECT PEACE" – 05/19/24

Go through this note sheet and discuss with your growth group and/or your family at the dinner table. Seek opportunities to also share this with your friends, relatives, coworkers, neighbors, and/or school mates. Bring this note sheet to your work and discuss it with your workmate over lunch. Bring it to school and discuss it with your schoolmate over lunch. Read the main passage and look up all of the supporting verses on the other side of this note sheet. Pray with one another.

- 1) At the top of the note sheet, common examples are listed of ways that the world experiences a state of inner peace. Which one(s), if any, did you circle? If you didn't circle any of the examples, is there a different example that you can share? On a scale of 1-5, how well were you able to experience inner peace from that example?
- 2) In the beginning of the message, Pastor Paul shed light on the difference between a state of peace, which can be fleeting, and the *Shalom* peace that only Jesus is the source of. *Shalom* is a reality that is complete and unwavering.
 - a. Do you experience the *Shalom* peace of Jesus? Y/N If you answered, "No," then why do you think that is? What would you need to do in order to experience this? If you answered, "Yes," then how did that come about?
- 3) Share your life experience regarding Jesus's shocking claim to be the Way and the only Way to have a relationship with God and go to heaven. Was there a time when you really grappled with this? Do you still grapple with this or have you come to terms with it? Which of the three reasons why people reject this truth can you relate to the most?
- 4) What's your next step on your discipleship journey with Jesus?