

Jesus at the Center - Peacemakers

Sermon: Access: Jesus at the Center: Peacemakers
Speaker: Mike Tatlock
Date: July 12, 2020

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Matthew 5:9

Gravity: Gravity is the force that attracts two bodies toward each other. An object with twice as much mass will exert twice as much gravitational pull on other objects. The gravitational force increases as the size of an object increases.

The mass of Jesus creates a gravitational pull toward: peace, reconciliation, restoration, forgiveness, healing

The world pulls us toward: resentment, division, violence, fighting, anger, conflict, betrayal, strife, hurt, chaos

The greater the gravity of the conflict...the greater the gravity of Jesus at the center

Jesus is our source of peace! *Ephesians 2:13-15*
-Peace is not just about conflict management, but conflict wholeness

The things that cause conflict in our world today
-Sin
-Fear
-Confusion

-Satan
-Offense/ Injustice
-Conviction

We need to model unity to the world! Peacemaking is about restoration or reconciliation
John 17:20-23; Romans 14:19,20

There is a difference between Peacemaking and Peacekeeping

- Peacemakers are Love-Driven over Hate-Driven
Matthew 5:43-44; Colossians 3:14-15
- Peacemakers are not Passive People but Pursuing People
Matthew 5:23-24
- Peacemakers are Spirit-Responsive over Flesh-Reactive
Romans 8:6, Romans 14:17, 19
- Peacemakers are committed to truth-telling and truth hearing
2 Timothy 2:23-26
- Peacemakers Remove Specks before Swinging Logs
Matthew 7:3,4
- Peacemakers Associate with those they disagree with
Luke 15:2; Luke 19:7
- Peacemakers Absorb not just Observe

Questions

1. Is Jesus the strongest gravitational pull in your life? Are you allowing the pull toward Jesus to prevent you from being pulled by the confusion and conflict of the world?
2. How can you carry Jesus into the midst of conflict?
3. Read John 17:20-23 What's at stake is not our comfort, but that the world will not know Jesus if we are a divided church. Identify one person in your life who you would be willing to pursue peace in order for them to know Jesus.
4. Do you identify more as a peacekeeper or a peacemaker?
5. Which of the 7 aspects of being a peacemaker is something God is calling you to in your life? What is one step you can take this week to be a peacemaker?

Pray: Holy Spirit, Help me to be a peacemaker! Amen!