

SMALL GROUPS

Leader Conversation Guide - Peace

Main Idea:

Peace is not found in the absence of problems but in the presence of God. The world searches for peace by removing stress, conflict, or anxiety—but the peace of God is discovered when we abide in His presence. True peace brings wholeness, completeness, and inner rest that transcends our understanding.

Make It Practical:

- **Peace is Presence, Not Absence.** The peace of God isn't about escaping problems; it's about inviting His presence into them.
- **Prayer Is the Pathway to Peace.** Bring everything—your cares, worries, and stresses—to God through prayer, petition, and thanksgiving.
- **Thanksgiving Releases Peace.** Even before you see the answer, thank God in faith; gratitude invites His peace into your situation.
- **Right Thinking Sustains Peace.** Guard your heart and mind by focusing on what is true, noble, pure, and praiseworthy.

Key Scripture:

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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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.”

Talk About It:

1. What stood out to you from this week’s message?
2. Why do you think we often define peace by *what’s missing* instead of *Who’s present*?
3. Which of Paul’s three instructions—prayer, petition, thanksgiving—do you need to grow in right now?
4. What practical step can you take this week to protect your heart and mind with God’s peace?
5. How can focusing on “whatever is true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable” help you maintain peace?
6. When have you experienced peace that “transcended understanding”? What led up to that moment?
7. How can our group create a culture of peace that helps others experience God’s presence?

Prayer:

God, thank You for being our source of peace. We choose today to bring every care, worry, and situation before You. Teach us to pray first, to petition with faith, and to give thanks even before we see the answer. Let Your peace guard our hearts and minds and remind us that You are near. Help us walk in wholeness, rest, and strength through Your presence this week. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Leader Tips:

- Model peace by staying calm and centered during discussion.
- Remind your group that experiencing anxiety doesn't mean a lack of faith—peace grows as we practice His presence.
- Encourage your group to end each day with gratitude and prayer.
- Ask members to share one “peace practice” they’ll try this week (such as prayer walks or journaling).
- Close with a time of silent reflection or worship to let God’s peace fill the room.