

5 Steps Toward Family Peace

Step #1 Recognize That Peace Begins With You!

Romans 12:18 "If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men."

Why You Might Not Be At Peace With Others.

Unwilling to FORGIVE. Matthew 18:21-35 JEALOUS toward others. Romans 12:17-21

Riddled with FEARS. Matthew 6:24-34 Refuse to HUMBLE yourself. Matthew 23:1-12

Entrenched in SELFISH pursuits. Luke 12:13-21

How You Can Find Peace Within.

Make peace with GOD. Romans 5:1 Believe GOD WILL DO GOOD. Romans 8:31-32 Pursue GOD'S WAY. Philippians 2

What The Benefits Of Inward Peace Are: Philippians 4

Step #2 - Pursue Things That Make For Peace

Things Man Pursues: (the quintessential man)

POSITION, POWER, PLEASURE, PROSPERITY, POPULARITY

Things that Make for Peace:

HUMILITY - Romans 12:16-18, PURITY - Philippians 4:8,9, CHARITY - Colossians 3:12-13, DISCIPLINE - Hebrews 12:1-13, FAITH - Hebrews 11:1-6

Step #3- Establish and Maintain Order

"For God is not a God of confusion but of peace let all things be done properly and in an orderly manner" 1 Corinthians 14:33,40

I. A World Without Order:

Creation - "And the earth was formless and void" Genesis 1:2

Society - "In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes." Judges 21:25

II. Necessary Ingredients for Order:

Regiment and Uniformity - "Do not associate with those given to change; for their calamity will rise suddenly" Proverbs 24:21,22 - INSPIRES - - CONFIDENCE

Arrangement & Coordination - "Prepare your work outside, and make it ready for yourself in the field; afterwards then, build your house." Proverbs 24:27 YIELDS - ORDER

Authority & Subordination - "The king gives stability to the land by justice" Proverbs 29:4 ACHIEVES - STABILITY

III. The Need for Spiritual Order: Who is in charge? What is your position? What is your role?

Step #4 - Declare War on Sin!

- I. War can bring PEACE: Isaiah 9:6 refers to the Messiah (ie. Christ) as "the Prince of Peace." Yet Jesus says in Matthew 10:34, "Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword." How then does Jesus bring peace? Luke 1:67-79 Psalm 72:1-7
- II. Pleasing People does not equal PEACE: Galatians 1:10, 1 Thessalonians 2:4. Don't rock the boat. Give the child what he wants. Why don't we compromise. Just don't say anything, it will go away Hosea 4:1-10.
- III. Peace comes when RIGHTEOUSNESS reigns: Psalm 119:165; Isaiah 32; 48:22; 57:20,21; Isaiah 59: 7,8, Psalm 34, Romans 5

Step #5 - Accept Your Limitations & God's Sufficiency

"God's grace is sufficient for you" 2 Corinthians 12:9

WANTING WHAT YOU DON'T HAVE, "if you have bitter jealousy & selfish ambition in your heart." James 3:14

"What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? (James 4:1)

"You lust and do not have;" (James 4:2)

..IS THE SAME AS TRYING TO BE WHAT YOU ARE NOT,

"...not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think" (Romans 12:3)

"since we have gifts that differ ... let each exercise them accordingly" (Romans 12:6)

"If the foot should say because I am not a hand, I am not a part of the body, it is not for this reason any less a part of the body." (1 Corinthians 12:15)

...TRYING TO DO WHAT YOU SHOULD NOT,

"only as the Lord as assigned to each one, as God has called each in this manner let him walk" (1 Corinthians 7:17)

"Let each man remain with God in that condition in which he was called." (1 Corinthians 7:24)

AND TRYING TO CHANGE WHAT YOU CANNOT!

"... was any man called as a Jew let him not become a Gentile" (1 Corinthians 7:18)

"were you called while a slave? Do not worry about it; but if you are able also to become free, rather do that." (1 Corinthians 7:21)