## **WELCOME TO**



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# What do you think of when you think of PEACE?





# This is important because in society today there is an ANXIETY EPIDEMIC

- poor health,
- difficult relationships,
- unemployment,
- poverty and disadvantage,
- loneliness,
- work stress,
- exposure to violence, trauma, conflict.
- abuse including childhood abuse and neglect;
- increased working hours and more stressful work procedures;
- a general sense of lack of control over our own destinies
- pressure of connectivity, social media etc



In the bible = the absence of conflict **but also** points to something better or more positive in its place.

Hebrew word "*SHALOM*" in time of Jesus the Greek word was "*EIRENE*"

# THE MOST BASIC MEANING IS: COMPLETE OR WHOLE, WITH NOTHING MISSING.



### WE NEED PEACE IN 3 AREAS OF OUR LIVES:

## PEACE WITH OURSELVES

Gen 1:26-27 made in the image of God



Only given to humans NOT animal kingdom

(flawed and marred but deeply loved by God to be called into relationship with the Creator)

"The way we continually talk about our own inabilities is an insult to our Creator. To complain over our incompetence is to accuse God falsely of having overlooked us. Get into the habit of examining from God's perspective those things that sound so humble to men. You will be amazed at how unbelievably inappropriate and disrespectful they are to Him."

**Oswald Chambers** 



### WE NEED PEACE IN 3 AREAS OF OUR LIVES:

## PEACE WITH OURSELVES

# **PEACE WITH OTHERS**

**Prob 16:7** to reconcile and heal a relationship is to bring **SHALOM**.

In bible when rival kingdoms make **SHALOM** they not only stop fighting but it also means they work together for each other's benefit

"If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

**Romans 12:18** 

"Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy;"

**Hebrews 12:14** 



### WE NEED PEACE IN 3 AREAS OF OUR LIVES:

## PEACE WITH OURSELVES

PEACE WITH OTHERS

PEACE WITH GOD



### Isaiah 9:6

"For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace."



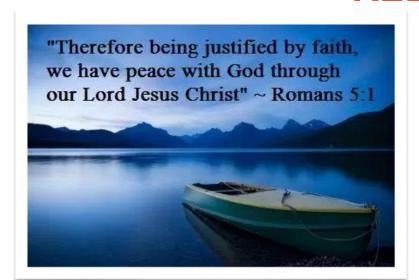


Jesus came to offer His peace to others:

John 14:27 "My peace I give to you"

Rom 5:1 "peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ"

# JESUS GIVES US THE POSSIBILITY OF A RESTORED RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD.





## Eph 2:14-15

"Jesus himself is our peace" (EIRENE)

### **Colossians 1:19-20**

"Making peace through the blood of his cross"



## **CONCLUSION:**

The bible concept of peace is more than absence of conflict, true peace is *TAKING WHAT'S BROKEN* and *RESTORING IT TO WHOLENESS*.

- in our relationship with God,
- •in our relationships with others,
- with ourselves.



### **SO WHAT'S YOUR NEXT STEP...?**

#### 1. PEACE WITH YOURSELF

Made in Gods image - flawed BUT made for relationship with the creator

#### 2. PEACE WITH OTHERS

Maybe need to forgive someone, reach out to someone, to make peace, accept the fact that it may not be down to you

#### 3. PEACE WITH GOD

If we choose to live without God in this life then we won't have the opportunity in the next life

## **SO WHAT'S YOUR NEXT STEP...?**

#### **PRAYER**

"Lord Jesus Christ, for too long I've kept you out of my life and gone my own way. I am sorry for the things I have done wrong. I now turn from everything which I know is wrong. Thank you for dying on the cross for me to set me free from my sins. I receive your forgiveness as I give my life to you. I choose to follow you. Amen"

WELCOME PACK - If you prayed that prayer or you're a guest and would like to know more we have a welcome pack for you.

