

The Gift of Peace
Vincent Tomei, Pastor of Worship Arts
August 3, 2014

The Problem with Peace

- We need to understand what the Bible says about peace, because it is our lack of peace that often drives our feelings and decisions.

The Promise of Peace

- Biblical peace (shalom) is a wholeness and confident assurance in God's loving care and plan that doesn't depend on circumstances, even when life is difficult.
- God is the God of peace.
- Peace is a gift to every believer from Jesus Christ!

The Practice of Peace

- God wants me to have peace in the very depths of my being that exceeds my understanding and guards my heart and mind.
 - Wrong way: Turning to worry is a move toward defeat.

- The Philippians 4:8 list helps me filter what I should give my attention to.
 - Test: the presence or absence of the peace of God will alert me to the condition of my “filter.”

The Path to Peace

- The Good News - the Gospel - is the message of peace with God.
- Jesus IS our peace.
- Jesus made peace with God for me by dying on the cross to pay for my sin.

- During this next week, I will write out Philippians 4:6-7, keep it with me during the day, memorize it, and repeat it to myself several times each day.
- During this next week, when anxiety within me shows me that I am worrying, I will tell it ALL to the Lord and thank Him for hearing my requests.
- I am committing to follow Jesus for the first time today.
- I am re-committing my life to follow Jesus today



The Gift of Peace

Vincent Tomei, Pastor of Worship Arts

August 3, 2014

Bridge LifeGroups are **currently on summer break**. We will continue to provide questions in abbreviated form each week for personal study and/or discussion for LifeGroups choosing to meet for a portion of the break.

1. On a scale of 1 to 10, what is the stress level in your life?

2. **READ** the following verses. Write down what they teach us about having peace.
 - **Psalm 16:5-8:**

 - **Psalm 29:11:**

 - **Psalm 46:10:**

 - **Psalm 55:22:**

 - **Isaiah 41:10:**

 - **John 14:1-3:**

 - **John 16:33:**

- **Romans 5:1:**

- **Romans 8:6:**

- **2 Corinthians 4:16-18:**

- **2 Thessalonians 3:16:**

- **1 Peter 5:7:**

3. **READ** John 14:27 & Philippians 4:6-7 (two of the main Scripture sections from Pastor Vin's message Sunday). What is at least one change you can make in your life based on the truth and promises in these verses?

4. Look over the Next Steps from this weekend's teaching. Which one (or more) will you apply this week? Why? How?

Close in prayer as the Holy Spirit leads you.

This **LifeGroup** Study Guide is designed to help you apply Sunday's message. You can do this homework on your own; however we encourage you to check out our warm and friendly message-based **LifeGroups!** Get a copy of this Study Guide at theBridgeFresno.com by clicking on the "Messages" link.