

Trans ~~CONFORM~~ TRANSFORMING PEACE

Romans 12:2: Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Galatians 5:22-23: But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

LIFE GROUP / PERSONAL STUDY:

We've been learning that it is so important for us to STOP conforming to the ways of our world - what our society or culture says we must do! Instead, we need to allow God to transform us by the renewing of our mind - the way we think and react to the circumstances of our lives. We've been learning that one of the ways that God does this is by growing the Fruit of His Spirit in our hearts. So far, we've looked at the Fruit of Love and the Fruit of Joy and how the growth of these fruits will truly help us to be transformed. This week, we're looking at the next fruit that we all desire - the fruit of peace.

1A) Describe the difference between the "Fruit of the Believer" and the "Fruit of the Spirit."

1B) PERSONAL: Why do you think it's important for us to bear both types of fruit?

2A) PERSONAL: What does it mean to you to know that because you are a child of God, you can bear His fruit?

2B) PERSONAL: How does this knowledge increase your desire to stop conforming and be transformed?

Read 2 Corinthians 3:18:

3) According to this passage, how can we tell whether we're being "transformed" or not?

Read Philippians 4:6-7:

4A) What specific instructions are we given in verse 6?

4B) If we follow these instructions, what will be the result according to verse 7?

5) Look at the following verses and describe the 3 different kinds of peace that are possible for us to have.

Romans 5:1:

John 14:27:

1 Thessalonians 5:23:

Read Philippians 4:8-9:

6A) Once again, what specific instructions are we given in verse 8?

6B) PERSONAL: How do you think following these instructions could help us renew our minds and be transformed?

7) According to verse 9, what did Paul say to do and what would be the result?

8A) What do we learn about peace in Psalm 34:14?

8B) PERSONAL: How does Isaiah 26:3 give you encouragement?

ACT: Peace is something we all desire! Our world is filled with anxiety and stress, but we can see clearly from God's Word that He wants us to have His Peace - the Fruit of His Spirit. We must also realize that our enemy will do everything he can to steal our peace, so we must seek peace by fixing our eyes on Jesus and trusting Him with everything! Pray don't worry! Be thankful don't complain and grumble! Think about things that reflect Jesus and don't get caught up in the ways and worries of the world. Peace is a gift that Jesus promises to give to His followers. He is the Prince of Peace.

Daily Devotional: It always helps to look at the context of the passage. Then try to answer the following questions about the passage. Who is involved? What is going on? Where is the action taking place? When? How can this concept apply to my life? Why is it important? Also look for Commands, Warnings, and Examples to follow or not to follow.

- This week let's read various passages that include promises of peace and how we can experience it.

Monday:

Psalm 119:65 NLT

Those who love your instructions have great peace and do not stumble.

Tuesday:

Psalm 29:11 NIV

The Lord gives strength to his people; the Lord blesses his people with peace.

Wednesday:

Matthew 5:9 NIV

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.”

Thursday:

Ephesians 4:3-4 NIV

Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called;

Friday:

Colossians 3:15 NIV

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

Saturday:

James 3:17-18 NIV

But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.

Sunday:

1 Peter 3:11 NIV

They must turn from evil and do good; they must seek peace and pursue it.

