

Shalom Series
At Peace with Myself
12/09/23
Newport News

Opening

- In A Christmas Carol, how many ghosts appear?
- Movie Miracle on 34th Street, is based on what real life department store?
- In Home Alone, to what city is the family going when Kevin is left behind?
- In How the Grinch Stole Christmas, the Grinch is described by 3 words?

-Luke 2:14

-Even at the announcement of his birth, we see the promise of Shalom!

Introduction

-So where do we get the word Shalom?

- It is a Hebrew word
- Translates in our Bibles as “peace”
- My belief is:
 1. Attitude
 2. Disposition
 3. State of mind and heart

-Shalom is a deep sense of wellbeing and goodness that is anchored in Jesus!

- Regardless of **my circumstances**
- Still free to feel **my emotions**
- **My center** that calls to me (talk about always being able to hear Mom’s voice)

This Series

-Until we are ready to accept the Biblical concept of “portion” we will never fully experience Shalom.

*-need to talk further about the idea of **portion** (cafeteria line in school!)...explain it as being “subject” to...*

-So let’s talk about how this concept of “portion” relates to the 4 primary relationships we all have in this life.

1. embrace His sovereignty (peace with God)

2. embrace your unchangeables (peace with myself)

3. embrace their diversity (peace with others)

4. embrace your chores (peace with creation)

-tonight: peace with myself (embrace your unchangeables)

-You will never be at peace with yourself until you are ready to embrace your portion of unchangeables.

Unchangeables

-Matthew 25:14-30

- The Master gave each servant a different portion.
- The Portions were not negotiable.
- The Servants were accountable for a responsibility they didn’t choose.
- The bags of silver are a prophetic picture of unchangeables.
- note: false narratives about God don’t justify rebellion

-What are the unchangeables of your life? (participation)

- time in history
- family of origin
- ethnicity
- personality
- spiritual gifts
- natural abilities
- intellectual capacity

- body shape and size
- sex, gender, and sexuality (talk about idolatry...the created being the creator, each of these individual but NOT independent!)...book Embodied

-**1 Thessalonians 5:16-23a**...I think Paul here is telling us something about Shalom.

-Are you willing to be thankful for every "portion" The Master has assigned to you?

The Genesis Lens

-Genesis 1:1-31 (ref.)

- **there is purpose in everything He created**
- **there is beauty in everything He created**
- **there is value in everything He created**
- **there is variety in everything He created**
- **there is order in everything He created** (order through interdependence)

-My challenge to you...are you willing to see yourself with the same attention from Him?

1. take this list of unchangeables
2. circle all the ones that you question or even resent
3. pray a Genesis 1 prayer over each unchangeable

Band

-For example... (breakthrough from self-loathing)

"God, help me to see the purpose in my personality."

"God help me to see the beauty in my personality."

"God help me to see the value in my personality."

"God help me to see the variety in my personality."

"God help me to see the order in my whole self."

Close

-Psalm 139:14