

Shalom Series
Peace With Others
10/09/21
Newport News

Opening/Introduction

-Pray

-October Fund Raising

- Café AC unit replacement - \$30k (original to addition)
- Water line to offices - \$15k (original to first building 1950's)
- We have \$40k in the building fund
- We plan to add another \$25k to that in January
- And we have emergency reserves as well...
- Let's raise at least \$10k this month...
- Then take not more than \$35k from the building fund...

The Way

-First century people who professed faith in Jesus as the Messiah were identified by names that placed a greater emphasis on becoming like Jesus and not just believing in Jesus.

-I want City Life to be a church where people learn how to pattern their lives after Jesus. (Is Jesus our path to Heaven? Yes! But He is also our pattern for living on our way there!)

-The Way

Praxis - The Way of Jesus' Character

Doxa - The Way of Jesus' Belief

Shema - The Way of Jesus' Obedience

Shalom - The Way of Jesus' Peace

This Series

-Are you at peace with God, yourself, others, and creation?

-The two texts we are using that give us our subtitle: **Peace With Your Portion**

- Matthew 25:14-19 (God, yourself, others, and creation)
- Genesis 1:1-31 (God, yourself, others, and creation)

- Being at peace with your unchangeables...your portion.
- Being at peace with God's sovereignty...He is the portioner.
- Being at peace with diversity...their portion.
- Being at peace with your chores...your productivity.

-Each of us has been given a portion of responsibility for Shalom in the family of God...a portion of relational unity assigned to us!

-Matthew 25:14...I think these words are more than contextual...they are prophetic...can He call us together...*He longs for that word to be presently descriptive!*

Beware

-(cheap substitutes fun with products – 6 different slides)

-Don't settle for false peace! (because Satan is tricky!)

-John 8:44

-2 Corinthians 11:14

-1 Peter 5:8 (if he led angels astray...)

-One of Satan's craftiest tricks is to appeal to a Godly desire.

-Genesis 3:4-5

-Satan didn't say to Adam and Eve, "Hey, you shouldn't want to be like God!" He gives them a false path for a Godly desire.

-Likewise, Satan isn't saying to us, "Hey, you shouldn't want to be at peace with others." He gives us a false path for this Godly desire...beware of a false Shalom.

-Beware of a false Shalom that pursues peace by ridding yourself relationally of everyone who is different than you are.

-Being tricked by Satan is not an excuse! (We are self-responsible!)

-Genesis 3:23

-Matthew 25:30

-Have you ever noticed that God's judgment in the Old Testament against all the nations, including Israel was never that they worshipped no one...no! They were constantly worshipping false Gods! Satan didn't try to rid people of their desire to worship; he just constantly gave them a false path!

-Romans 12:14-18 (these aren't the words of someone proposing homogeneity!)

Belong

-Have you ever considered how creation reveals what God values?

-Romans 1:19-20

-The Garden of Eden in Genesis 1 was the perfect picture of Shalom not because everything was the same but rather because everything that was different worked in perfect harmony together...God values variety!

-Do you have a "sameness" lens that is obstructing your view of Scripture?

- The 12 disciples
 1. different towns = different norms
 2. wildly different backgrounds
 3. wildly different personalities
 4. different tribes (biases and prejudice)
 5. different politics
 6. different rabbinical loyalties
- The first Jerusalem church (ref. verse)
 1. Acts 2:41
 2. Acts 2:7-12
 3. Acts 6:1

- Paul's pattern of teaching (ref. verses)
 1. 1 Corinthians 12:12-13
 2. Romans 3:28
 3. Philippians 2:1-4
- What began in Genesis continued in Acts and beyond!!!

-Belong to a diverse community of people (especially your church) where you are challenged to work together with people who look, think, vote, live...differently than you! Biblical Shalom is found in harmony, not sameness.

-(need some comments here about not negotiating core doctrines, this is why Doxa is part of our model, nor issues we see as timeless morality...Jesus did both...doctrinely pure and perfectly at peace!)

Band

-Acts 15:19

-This isn't just about gracious evangelism. The Holy Spirit inspired this decision for another reason. It is a strategy for the achievement of Shalom. God wants you and I to know what it feels like to experience the miracle of Shalom in relationship with others. So God was constantly pointing the first century church back toward diversity so there is the hope of Shalom and a pattern for future churches to follow!

-Acts 1:8 isn't just about geography... (Bishop Claude Alexander)

-Romans 12:18...he isn't saying change "everyone" here...he implores us to change so "everyone" can remain find Shalom.

Close

-Matthew 17:24-27