

Sermon Notes

Week of Sunday, December 6, 2015

Sermon: All is Well - Peace on Earth

Key Passage: Luke 2: 8-14(ESV)

Pastor - Mark Saunders



8 And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. 10 And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. 12 And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, 14 "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" (Luke 2: 8-14 ESV)

A. Jesus came to bring us peace.

I. Jesus came to bring us peace personally.

II. Jesus came to bring us peace relationally.

III. Jesus came to bring us peace spiritually.

14 For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; (2 Corinthians 5:14 ESV)

B. Jesus came to bring us peace with the person in the mirror.

15 and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised. (2 Corinthians 5:15 ESV)

C. Jesus came to bring us peace with the people in our lives.

16 From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. (2 Corinthians 5:16 ESV)

D. Jesus came to bring us peace with God.

17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. 18 All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. 20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. 21 For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (2 Corinthians 5:16-21 ESV)

Life Group Notes

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1. What were your thoughts walking out of service this weekend? What stood out to you about Mark's discussion of Peace on Earth?

2. Talk about a time that you had peace in the midst of craziness. What was the situation and how did you find peace within it? How have you tried to attribute that peace to other parts of your life?

3. Take some time to read 2 Corinthians 5:14-21. Make note of what stands out to you and share with the group. Is there anything that stands out now that didn't when Mark was preaching?

4. What do you think the author means in verse 15 when they write, ...those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised? How do you see this verse changing your everyday interactions with people?

Life Group Notes (Cont)
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5. What does it mean for us to regard no one according to the flesh? How do we regard people like that now? How can we change that perspective?

6. How have you become a new creation in Christ? How have you seen Christ change the way you react towards difficult situations/conversations?

7. What does reconciliation mean in the context of verses 18-19? Where do you see reconciliation needed around our world? Why?

8. Verse 20 starts with a Therefore, which starts a new thought. What is that therefore referring to? What are we supposed to be ambassadors for?

9. How can verse 21 be taken out of context to ignore those who are 'outside' the kingdom? What does it really mean?