

The Revealing of the Sons of God

2023.12.17 Morning Sermon in **Matthew 5:9**

9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

Main idea: Believers are blessed already to be the sons of God, and blessed all the more in anticipating coming into the fullness of their adoption.

Introduction: Why peace even needs to be made.

1. How peacemakers are made: peace with God

- a. Conversion (3:2) by regeneration (3:8 –11)
- b. Union to the great Peacemaker (3:15), Who has given us peace with God (cf. Rom 5:1)
- c. Coming into a Sonship (3:17) of the same Father by the same Spirit
- d. This is the greatest display of God's love toward us (cf. Rom 5:8–9; 1Jn 3:1–2). God gives to us by adoption what properly belongs to Jesus by the personal properties within the Godhead.

2. Peacemakers in the creation

- a. New humanity in the last Adam (1:1, cf. Gen 5:1)
- b. Shalom: creation as it was, ought to be, and will be.
- c. New creation, reconciled to God (cf. 2Co 5:17–21)... an entire cosmos being reconciled to God.
- d. Even in the old creation, as it longs to see these sons who have been reconciled in the Son (cf. Rom 8:18–21). Even before they are displayed by resurrection, they are displayed by sanctification (cf. Rom 8:13–17).

3. Peacemakers in the nation (i.e. the neighborhood)

- a. As far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone (cf. Rom 12:17–21).
- b. But there is peace beyond what “depends upon us.” Our part/place has been appointed by God, Who is reconciling sinners to Himself (cf. Rom 11:13–14; 1Cor 9:22; James 5:20)

4. Peacemakers in the body of Christ

- a. The most important place to be a peacemaker because (a) believers are united to Him, (b) they are the only part of the new creation so far extant
- b. Eph 4:30–5:2
- c. Col 3:12–15

Conclusion: One day, believers will be called the Sons of God. Christ will unashamedly be called the firstborn among many brethren.

(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via hopewellarp.org)

Matthew 5 verse 9. Blessed are the peacemakers. For they shall be called sons. Of god. Oh man, that sends this reading of god's inspired and An airtrort. Rejoice that he adds his blessing. To the preaching and hearing of it and worship. Please be seated.

We do not yet. See All things placed under christ's feet. The nations still rage kings and people's Still plot in vain against the lord and his christ. And as we are going to hear lord willing, Next. Lord's day. And all the more against his people, the more. They become like, the christ.

Against him, the world's rages. And plots. Indeed, death itself. That great enemy. That has come into the world by our first father's sin. And our sin in him. That enemy stillrageous. Throughout the earth. Is not shalom. That we see. It is not the Very good. That we see. That the lord pronounced proclaimed.

At the conclusion of his. Creation. Therefore, there is shalom to be made. There is peace to be made. That the creation would be reconciled to its creator. Not just that sinners would be saved. And reconciled. But that. God, and the things that he has made. Would be in proper relation to one another.

And so we rejoice that. This book began with a hint. That jesus is this. Not merely second Adam this last atom. This item of a new creation. This Adam who is not only The firstborn of a new humanity. But, Who takes dominion? Not only over the all the earth.

But in his great glory over the heavens and the earth. As he will say at the end, Of this wonderful gospel. And his holy scripture. That the lord jesus has come to destroy the works of the devil. That he has come. Not only to make new creatures but ultimately, To prepare for the new creation.

That when the last of his, Have been joined to him by faith. And that part of their adoption. That is the redemption of their bodies has come on the day of resurrection. That for which this creation has longed for with groaning for millennia. Will finally be fulfilled. The sons of god will be revealed.

The creation will participate in their glorious liberty. And there will be shalom. There will be peace. Jesus christ. It's the great piecemaker. But we can see. In our hearts. And we can see in our homes. And we can see in our community, We can see even in the churches.

And we can see in the land. And we can see in the world. That there is peace. That needs. To be made. And therefore there are many things. That christians are called. They're called in christ, praise god. We're cold saints. Praise god. But here are two things that christians are called.

In verse 9. They are called peacemakers. And they are called sons of god. Because he is the peace making god. And when he saves people into union with his son, And he conforms them into the character of his son. He makes them. Peacemakers. Not perfectly. So at first But genuinely so, however, small at first An increasingly.

So Until? Even when there is no resistance to God, They still. For unending ages. And new heavens and a new earth earthy. They spread shalom wherever they go. They take dominion under the dominion of the lord jesus. They do all things. And display of. As glory. So, we see.

This this morning and this afternoon, Lord willing. Uh, several ways. In which God's people are blessed peacemakers, who shall come into the perfection? Of their sonship. Our first, how peacemakers are made. How peacemakers are made? Jesus is the great peacemaker but you remember his kingdom wasn't immediately. Good news for sinners.

They must be at peace with god for his kingdom to be good news for them. And so her peacemakers are made and then peacemakers in the creation. Teasing out a little bit of what it means to be. The spiritual offspring of adam. The source of the new not of Adam of the lord jesus.

The new Adam, the last adam. Of the new humanity. And what it means then to be reconciled to god. As he pleads with us, by his ambassadors, in the gospel, to be reconciled to him. Who in the context there? We'll see in second Corinthians 5. Is talking about reconciling the cosmos to himself.

Not merely individual men. So first we'll see peace. How peacemakers are made peace of god and then peacemakers in the creation. Taking second Corinthians 5 and Romans 8. Together. And then peacemakers in the nation. Which for the vast majority of us as peacemakers and the neighborhood. And then, Peacemakers.

In the body of christ. And we'll see that. Despite a world that is at war with christ and will be increasingly. So with us, Uh, so far as it continues to be at war with christ. We may actually be agents by which he is pleased. To bring parts of his world.

More into his peace. To lay down their arms. And, Take up. Their citizenship and submission. To the lord jesus. And then we'll see all the way through then. The blessedness of being such peacemakers. For their already called sons of god. And they shall be revealed. At last is the perfected.

Sons of god. We could almost say, amen. Just and going over the outline. First then how peacemakers are made. Peace with god. The kingdom of heaven was at hand. The lord jesus. Is bringing it in. He is about to take his seat upon the throne of heaven. But his way to the crown was through a cross.

And it was through across. In order that he might redeem for himself, those citizens whom he has plundering the kingdom of the devil to take. And so the lord jesus, the great king. Is. Is plundering the realm of the imposter. King. The prince of the power of the air.

Whose styles himself as a god of this world. And as he comes then to usher in his kingdom, first with the cross. And then, with a crown. He sends his herald before him. As we heard at the beginning of chapter 3. Saying. Being he converted repent. Have your mind changed, not your opinion changed.

But the nature of your mind changed. For the kingdom of heaven. Is at hand. And this of course, is not good news until it is christ. Who comes and who does this? You remember, when? John sees Pharisees and Sadducees coming. And he calls them what they are. Not the Seed of christ, not the children of god but offspring of serpents.

The brood of vipers. Who warned you to flee? From the right to come. But it's at that point that he makes reference back to Ezekiel. And god's promise that by his spirit, He would give life. By his spirit, he would give new hearts of flesh instead of the hearts of stone.

That we have in and with. And from Our first father, Adam. And so this is the first part of jesus's peacemaking at least as far as touches each of our lives. John baptized with water. Jesus, baptizes with his spirit. And when jesus gives you his spirit, he takes from you, your heart of stone and he gives to you a heart of flesh.

He gives light to your mind, he gives life to your heart. And you he brings to faith in himself and then he brings you to faith in himself, you become joined to him. And the enmity that you had with god is destroyed. By the reconciliation that god makes in his son.

The lord jesus christ. This is how. Peace with god. Is made for a sinner. By the great peacemaker. The lord jesus christ. You remember, when? Just a chapter and a half. Or so ago, jesus came to john to be baptized And how john responded said no. No no no.

Is i'm doing the water baptism for repentance. I need to be baptized by you. I need the spirit. That that doesn't, that gives me repentance. I need the changed heart. I need the changed mind. You don't Lord jesus. Remember dawn had grown up, jesus was the younger cousin. Six months younger than he was.

And yet, he knew who this was. But remember, jesus's answer. Permitted to be. So now, for thus, it is fitting for Us. To fulfill all righteousness. Jesus was coming to be identified with his people. This was how not just, jesus would fulfill his calling, but how john's righteousness would be fulfilled by what jesus does.

And so if you believe in jesus, that's how your righteousness is fulfilled by what jesus does. And we get united to him. Therefore, If you have believed in god, if you are righteous with With god through faith, in jesus christ, having been justified by faith. Romans 5, verse 1.

We have peace with god. Through our lord, jesus christ. He brings us into peace with god. By the righteousness of faith. In jesus christ. Do you have peace with god? When you? Sin and your conscience. Accuses, you Do you have the lord jesus christ to lay hold of thy faith and say no one who believes in him will be put to shame.

Everyone who calls upon the name of the lord will be saved. I am justified by faith. My sin cannot bring penalty down upon my head. Christ has satisfied, it all my sin cannot disqualify me for fellowship of the living. God Because christ is all of my qualification and he is perfectly righteous.

Do you have that peace with god? Not just do you know about it that this is how men have peace with god. But do you have christ by faith? By spirit given faith in which your heart lays old with him. And says, christ is not to me the stumbling stone.

Part of my running after a righteousness. That is by works. No christ is unto me. My cornerstone, my rock of refuge the place where i make my stand and never leave. Have peace with god. This is how peace. Peacemakers are made. In order to be a peacemaker they need to be at peace with him.

In the first place. We come into sonship. Of the same father by the same spirit. Isn't it wonderful when jesus has done being baptized? What was the first thing he saw when he was baptized? If you remember the sermon or if you remember the text, well enough, you answered heaven opened.

Even if you used to answer the spirit descending like a dove. Now, the first thing he saw was heaven opened And it is the same spirit who alighted upon him. As the Dove the first time. Returning to Noah and finding her place. But here the holy spirit finds his place on the second person of the godhead even now in his human nature.

And it is not another spirit from christ that he has given you. If you have peace with god, it is by the same. Holy spirit who came from the opened heaven or made display of himself. Made a display of himself from the open heaven and a lighted, upon christ.

This same spirit as the one who has come upon you, this same spirit as the one who dwells in your heart. You are made a peacemaker like unto jesus. By his very own spirit. And you are then enabled by his spirit to call god abba to call. God, father Oh, what a wonderful thing.

It is to have peace with your father. Especially if for a moment, you have not had that piece with your father. Perhaps you have done something children. And, you know, That when daddy gets home. Peace will be. Eventual, but not immediate. Because there will be discussing. And there will be what comes after discussing.

And there will be prayer. And then there will be peace. And how wonderful it is. When it's over, And your father, looks you in the eye. And he says, am i mad at you? And you smile and you say, no. He says. Do i love you? And you throw your arms around his neck and say yes daddy.

And i love you, too. Well, we have come from being Out of peace with our father. Into peace with our father and we call him daddy. We call him up. And jesus gives us. Not a different father than his, but the same father. Which is why after his resurrection, he comes to his disciples and he says, i'm going to my father and your father How sad that some.

Yeah. Exposite that verse. And they say see how jesus distinguishes Uh, god's fatherhood of him from his fatherhood of, then all that's true. He is jesus's father in in the divine essence and the personal properties of the father to beget, the son and the personal property of the son to be begotten by the father.

And we don't come into a union of substance with the living. God, But jesus is point there. And so what he has accomplished for us. Is that we have all of the rights and privileges. Of sonship in him. We can come to the same father with the same name, making claims upon the same.

Love for the same inheritance. Oh, the greatness. Of the peace. That the triune god gives to sinners. When he brings them into union with jesus christ by faith. It's no wonder then. That he who makes peace with them, then begins to use them as peacemakers. For this as the great way in which he has displayed the glory of his son.

The peacemaker capital p. And what he has destined. For those who me foreign you for those who he set, adopting love upon before the foundations of the world is that they would be conformed pressed into the shape. Of the image of his son, that they would all be peacemakers.

Lowercase. P. And so this is the great display. Of god's love towards us. That we would be brought into sonship in twelved by his spirit, able to call him our father brought into conformity with the lord jesus, put on the same side as it were. And a world where there is not salon.

We would be in shalom, we would be it. Peace with god. And even bits of creation has we're going to hear in a moment? We'll experience it because there are new creatures. Even in the midst of the Still bound. Creation. And so, is it any wonder that in romans five?

And the first john three, God says. Of all the different ways you can see his love and we can see it everywhere. We can see it everywhere. Yeah. You can be. Um, you can abuse language to draw dreadfully wrong conclusions. This is god demonstrates his own love for us and this While we were still sinners.

Christ died for us. Jesus christ died for the ungodly. And that's how we can know that. Now that we have peace with god, everything that is necessary for the completion of our salvation will surely be done for while he were while we were his enemies. Christ died for us.

How much more? Having been united to him and saved through and justified and adopted. And having this peace with god, Shall we be saved through his life? And then first, john three. Behold, what manner love? The father has shun to us. That we should be called. The sons of god.

The children. Of god. So, how peacemakers are made? By their own peace with god. Next peacemakers in the creation. Peacemakers in the creation. We've already considered. This opening line of the book of matthew recalling genesis 5:1, The. The that which comes forth.

In the wrong book. The book of the genealogy of quoting genesis 5-1. But here it's the book of the genealogy of jesus christ. And in that case it was the line of the godly looking for the seed who had crushed the serpent's head. And that which the serpent has brought in as he tempted our first father, And the earth was cursed.

On our account for our sakes. The lord jesus is now identified as the one who is going to bring a creation as it was before the fall and as it ought to be now, and as it will, most certainly be in the last day. And so, this is the great work that jesus is doing.

And this is the great work, then that the sons of god are given to participate in. And we said that, as we considered peacemakers in the creation, that is most definitely not enjoying the peace of god. We would consider first, second Corinthians 5 and then Romans 8. So, I hope you have a copy of the word of god and you can turn to second Corinthians 5.

And the second Corinthians. Uh, five. We're going to begin in verse 17. Therefore, if anyone is in christ, He is a new creation. And it's actually not quite that smooth. If you've got a Physical copy. You probably have, he is in italics. If anyone is in christ, new creation, Something from the new heavens and the new earth is here already.

We are. We belong to the race of christ, the last atom. We are not just in a In a foreign kingdom now christian. Uh, can be a citizen of any nation. But, That nation is not, his homeland is not his his kingdom. He is a sojourner there. Well, that's not just true with nations.

That's true with this entire creation. As it continues to be bound to corruption and decay as it is the fallen creation. Or in comparison to that which is to come the old creation. If anyone is in christ, he is a new creation. All old things have passed away. You are not who you were.

You have a new nature in christ, jesus.

Behold, all things have become new. Now, all things are of god who has reconciled us to himself. Through jesus christ. And has given us. The ministry. Of reconciliation. Now, the we who are ambassadors in verse 20, is probably a shift. To the apostle and those ministers of the word with whom he is writing, But the us in verse 18 is, those who have been reconciled to god through jesus christ and what happens to those who have been given peace with god, they are they become peacemakers?

That is that God was in Christ. Reconciling the world to himself. And this translated world, but the word here is Cosmos. To himself. Not imputing their trespasses to them. And has committed to us. The word of reconciliation. You see the problem with this creation? Is us. The problem of the world is sinners.

We are the ones. Who brought death? Into the world. By our sin and Adam. We are the ones who continually perpetuate death. By our ongoing sin. By which we abuse? Not only one another, but even all of the creatures, And so, God makes Christians. Into peace makers. And this is why the work the world needs.

Is not less carbon. Which is as idiotic as that sounds. But more Christians. More conversions. Real spiritual life. Where those, for whom Christ was made to be sin. At the cross. Are then not just counted righteous. With the righteousness of God. But begin to have the righteousness of Christ that has been counted for them.

Which is the only way you're ever justified by God. But we begin to have that righteousness. Worked out in us. And it should be evident wherever we go, whatever we do. That we are new creation. We are from another world. From another Cosmos. Are from a transformed Cosmos. That is to come.

And so, We are reconciled to God. And we get a ministry of reconciliation and God in his providence makes The whole creation. To groan for this. To long for this. So, we're going to start. Because it's in the for in Matthew 5:9 which we're considering it's blessed are the peacemakers For they shall be called, sons of God.

We're going to start in Romans 8 and verses 18 through 21. And the peace that the creation is longing for. In the revealing of the sons of God. But then, we'll come back. And we'll get verses 13 through 17. And that sunship itself. So Romans 8 verse 18 for I consider that the sufferings Of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory, which shall be revealed.

In us. And so, there is A glory that is coming a, a Final completion of our conformity to the Lord Jesus Christ. In which there will be glory that has actually displayed not to the Christian, although certainly that We will see the King in his beauty. Her just heard from Isaiah 33.

That the Lord's, glory the Lord himself in his glory is our reward. But what this is saying, Is that a Christian is himself? A display of God's glory. Now. One of the things that troubles us so much. In this life is how imperfect and inconsistent that display is. In our life now, but it will not always be that way.

For I consider that the sufferings of, this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory, which shall be revealed in us for the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly we waits For the revealing of the sons of God. The creation, the whole world. Is eagerly waiting for the last day, when all of the elect.

Have been brought to faith in Jesus Christ and when Christ returns, And those who are dead in Christ rise, first. We believe in a rapture. But the rapture comes at the resurrection. The rapture comes at the last day, we eagerly desire, the return of the Lord Jesus, along with the creation.

Who eagerly desires the return? Of the Lord Jesus. Because in that day, all of the sons of God Will have been brought to faith in Jesus Christ will have been perfected in holiness in Jesus Christ, and will be resurrected with bodies that conformed to the glorious body of the Lord Jesus Christ.

And the resurrection and the creation itself is eagerly invested in the physicality of that resurrection. Because the moment that you and i are perfected in holiness, if the lord Terrace. And Resurrection, our death proceeds, resurrection, the moment you and i are perfected and holiness. We will finally be as we ought to be to serve god in his creation.

But we will have just lost the bodies in which we could have done. So, And the version of the body that we lost. Was not ideal for serving him. In this creation. But at the resurrection, We will receive a glorified body. That is perfectly suited. To our Holy souls.

So that we may Serve god in his creation in the way that Adam and his wife were commanded to do in Genesis chapter 1.

And so, the creation is eagerly. Expecting this for the creation was subjected. To futility, not willingly but because of him who subjected it and hope. Because the creation itself will also be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty. Of the children of god.

Now. That is the great display of the sons of god. But there is a display of the sons of god that occurs now You can tell who they are. By. By whom they are led. And what they are doing. And so, if we back up then to Verse 12.

Therefore brethren. We are debtors not to the flesh to live according to the flesh. For, if you live according to the flesh. If you live, according to that, which remains From your former nature. Well, actually, if you live according to the flesh, You don't really have good grounds upon which to think that it's your former nature.

Remember the one who? Sins, without compulsion sins. Without repentance. Who tolerates it and does it okay with it in himself? The one who offers his members is, To sin as a slave of sin. That's earlier. Uh, in the book. But if you live, according to the flesh, you will die.

But if by the spirit you put to death, the deeds of the body that is the flesh remains. But you're not taking orders from it. You're at war with it. If by the spirit you put to death, the deeds of the body, you will live four as many as our lead by the spirit of god.

These Are the sons. Of god. For you did not receive. The spirit of bondage again to fear. But you receive the spirit of adoption. By whom we cry out ab Father, so we're in this battle against what remains from our flesh. And as the spirit leads us in the battle we don't say, oh, this battle is so hard that i'm afraid i'm going to lose.

We say. Since the only way that i am waging this battle at all, Is by the spirit of god who has been given to me. And who has united me to christ. I know that i am god's child. I know that i am his son. For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, abba father The spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are the children of god, and if children then heirs heirs of god and joint heirs with christ, if indeed we suffer with him, that we may also be glorified together and we would love to take the time to open up for 17, but you can go

Download stream.

That sermon there. But here, the spirit himself bears witness, with our spirit that we are children of god. In other words, Yes, there is a final and full and great reveal of the sons of god on the last day that the creation eagerly expects. But we do not have to wait until that day for us for ourselves to know that we are the children of god.

We may know now. That we are the children of god. He assures us of our sonship by leading us against our sinfulness. He assures us of our sonship by leading us against our sinfulness. Not by our sinlessness. But by our hopeful confident, calling god, father calling jesus christ's brother, not suffering by ourselves, but suffering with him, knowing that we shall be glorified with him and inherit with him.

And the more you and i are killing sin, the more it is revealed. That we are the children of god. It's not perfection and holiness, that's not the resurrected body. But it is a revelation. Of our sonship. We walk as children of light. In a world. That continues in darkness.

So peacemakers in the creation. There is an extent to which Your sanctification is going to touch things like, The land in which you live. What you do with your property? How you treat your beasts? This was something that came out and in israel, or at least they were told that it should But it never did.

The land finally got it sabbath, swin. The exile. The trees. We're glad to see both israel and Babylon gone. And sabbath breaking led to many. More burden beasts than they ought to have been. Because it rot had been better to be abuse to burden in israel. Where even the even the Um, Sentient creature.

Gets a day off every week. Just because The people there are at peace with god. It makes a difference even in the creation, doesn't it? It makes a difference in the nation. A little further in Romans, 12. Christians, as peacemakers as shalom. Um, Agents of peace. We'll say. Because it's not entirely restoration.

Chapter 12 verse 17, repay. No one evil for evil. Have regard for good things. In the sight of all men. That doesn't mean. Do whatever all men say is good. God is the one who defines. What is good. But the good that we do. Should be visible to all.

We're going to get into that more in verses 10 through 16 and how that relates to persecution next week. So, We'll leave that for now. If it is possible as much as depends on you, live peaceably. With all men. Beloved, do not avenge yourselves. But rather give place to wrath.

For it is written, vengeance's, mine. I will repay says the lord. And so, both proactively. We ought to be the best. Neighbors, our neighbors have They may think we are weird. They may think we are religiously fanatical. They may think. We are having so many babies that we evidently want to start our own nation.

They might not be wrong. But they will know. That the neighbor that they can count on for help. The neighbor who will never steal anything of theirs or try and fudge the lines on their property. That their best neighbor as their christian neighbor. Because he is as far as it depends upon him.

Seeking to live at peace with all men. This is. How you become? A peacemaker in your nation. Now, we have More effect on what happens at higher levels of government, in our nation than most christians have had in most nations in the history of the church. And so, there's responsibility there.

But the first responsibility is with our neighbor. That we be. As much as depends upon us. Living peaceably. With all. It also means that we are not vengeful. Or bitter. Or despairing or discouraged. Whether by evil neighbors or by evil government. Because vengeance already belongs to god. We don't have to take it.

There is a peace that comes by the sword of God. And it is coming. He has given to us. Not to bear the sword of vengeance. But to confuse our enemies hopefully into heaven. If the lord is pleased to use it, If your enemy is hungry, feed him. If he's thirsty, give him something to drink.

This will be perplexing to the world. And if they do not repent, it will increase the wrath that comes upon his head. For having sinned against so much more, kindness and goodness. For having sinned against those who demonstrated that they were the sons of god, and Jesus Christ, and therefore, the sin is even more directly.

In opposition to the Lord Jesus.

But peacemakers. Peacemakers in their nation. And this. There's all secondary, isn't it to? Seeking for them, all to be brought. To the Lord Jesus Christ. And faith. Now, we're all finite, we have the particular. Marriage, that is assigned. To us a particular household that is assigned to us that particular congregation.

That is assigned to us. Of the particular neighbors that are assigned to us. This is a limitation for Paul as well. Oh, how he longed? Haven't we been seeing that? And we'll see it again. This coming midweek as we turn the page into chapter 10 in Romans and he talks about his heart's desire and prayer to God.

And we hear again, the, the great grief and continual sorrow that was in chapter 9. But Paul was not given he was not signed by God the providence. One through whom. Very many Jews. Were immediately converted through his preaching. He was appointed. To the gentiles for their salvation. And yet, since God is the one who is saving, Jews Paul gives himself as much as he can, to the ministry that has been appointed to him, because he his personal ministry is participating in the overall work of God.

You heard this in Romans 11 verse 13 and 14 for. I speak to you Gentiles in as much as I am an apostle to the gentiles. I magnify my ministry, if by any means, I may provoke to jealousy. Those who are my flesh and save some of them. Now.

When I was, Uh, some of you children's age, Actually, many of you children's age, I used to. Have these moments where I would. I would start thinking about how many unsaved people there are in our nation. And how many unsaved people there are in the world And I would, Take to myself, not just the right burden of having great grief and continual sorrow and the right response of having my heart's desire and prayer to God for them.

But I would start thinking having these grand plans. Of how, you know, I would go places and evangelize, you know, whether here or abroad. But the Lord is the one who does his overall work? The first place. For you to evangelize. Is in your home. And in your church.

Not because we're unbelievers but because we all still need the gospel and there may be unbelievers who still need the gospel and you don't know. But Paul gave himself to the part that the Lord had assigned to him hoping that God would use it to As part of the plan that the Lord had to save even those over whom he was so grieved.

And so, give yourself wholeheartedly. To the spiritual ministry to which he has called you Whether even it is singing with all your heart in the public worship,

But peacemakers. Peacemakers in the nation. This And give you just a couple more texts. And then we'll move to peacemakers in the body of Christ and we'll probably just have to read those again. Although We had hoped to spend. More time. To the week. I became this is first Corinthians 9:22 to the week.

I became as weak that i might win the week. I've become all things to all people that i might by all means. Save some Not that he changed histology, not that he changed his scruples. But that. Whatever obstacles. He could lawfully remove. He was always thinking About the spiritual condition of the person immediately in front of him.

And this is a mindset that believers. Come into as we relate to our community. That we are never just in business and we are never just in In the community and government or participating in, you know, whatever activities we participate in. But that we are evangelistically minded. And thinking about and remove the salvation of others and removing what obstacles?

We can. And then, Desiring that the lord. Uh, Would use us.

Let him if anyone among you wanders from the truth. And someone turns him back. And this takes us into the body of christ. Now, Let him know that he who turns a sinner. From the error of his way, will save a soul from death. And cover a multitude of sins.

Now, the body of christ we have saved for last. But it is not last but not least. It is actually last and most. Because here is a place. Where we could should almost be able to wipe out that as far as it depends on you. Because in the body of christ, It's all saints.

It's all. Peacemakers. You and i must not make judgments. About whether or not someone else in the church is really saved. If God calls them saint. Then we are to treat them that way. We give them the judgment of charity. Which does mean by the way, that we rebuke them.

That we try to retrieve them. From their sin. And if in the providence of god and following the instruction of god, they cannot be retrieved. They cannot be brought to be repentant of a sin. They do end up the church being obedient to god, putting them out of the church so that they are no longer cold saint.

But so long as they are called saint. We are to consider them as being united to christ. As being bone of his bone and flesh of his flesh. So that what we do to them, and how we relate to them, we do to the lord jesus. This is why the, the greatest, Display of our peacemaking is actually in our relationships in the church.

Which, Your greatest. Opportunity and display is not in the church, broadly. But in the church that is in your household. It would be dreadful if we read these next couple of passages and we'll just read them expressively. We won't Exposure. Maybe dreadful if you heard these next couple passages.

And you sought to make display of it in the broader congregation. But didn't make your marriage. The first place that you display this. You don't make with your children, the first place that you display this, or with your parents, Or with your brothers and sisters. Whom you are to consider until Proven otherwise by church discipline.

As being united to christ.

Do not grieve the holy spirit of god. By whom you were sealed. For the day of redemption. All. Bitterness. Wrath. Anger. Clamor. Quarreling. Bitterness wrath anger. Quarreling. And evil speaking. To be put away from you. With all malice wishing bad things on others. And be kind. To one another.

Not just with hand, but tender hearted. Forgiving. One another. Even as god in christ, forgave you Therefore, Be imitators of god. As dear. Children. And walk in love. As christ also has loved us. And giving himself for us. An offering and a sacrifice to god. For a sweet smelling aroma.

You were once darkness but now you are light in the lord. Walk. As children. Of light. And colossians 3. Again. Thinking, especially in your marriage. With your children, with your parents. With your siblings. In your congregation. Therefore as the elect of god, Holy and beloved, Put on. Tender mercies.

Kindness. Humility. Meekness lowliness lowliness. Long suffering. Bearing with one another. And forgiving one, another, if anyone has a complaint against another Even as christ, forgave you So you also must do. But above all these things put on love. Which is the bond of perfection. And let the peace of god.

Rule in your hearts. All right, so a little bit of exposition. You don't get the interaction. Or even the heart attitude. That has been taught here. Unless you have actual peace with god in the lord jesus christ. And it guards, the gate, it is the gate of the heart.

It is the arbiter. Of what thoughts are allowed through, what feelings are allowed through, what words are allowed to overflow from the heart. What actions of the hand come from the heart? And so, there is a Blessed are the peacemakers who have been given peace with god so that they can be peacemakers.

That's This is one of the places where we get that principle. Let the peace of god rule in your hearts. To which also you are called in one body. And be thankful. It's much easier. For us to do this as a community project, isn't it? Because we don't consistently, let the peace of God rule in her hearts.

And if yet, we are in a household where husband and wife, and mom, and dad, brother, and sister and children, Are all seeking more and more by the ministry of the spirit, to have the peace of god, rule in my heart. So that my affections and thoughts towards my family, and my words, and my attitudes, my actions.

But if each one is called to the same and we are one body in christ. And then of course, with a congregation as well. This is one of the ways that church discipline is actually designed to foster unity. Not just unity of doctrine. Like we have often referred to from first corinthians 1 10.

But as each of us seek to be ruled by the peace of god, Then we will more and more be the people who bear with one another and forgive one another and refuse to have any bitterness towards what another When we put away all ill intent, certainly we don't speak evil.

One another gossip. About one another. But if you're not practicing church discipline, Then you're not following christ's prescription. For how to. How to see his body be kept largely. Of those who are actually converted. And if they're not converted, how is the peace of god? Going to rule their hearts?

And if the peace of god isn't ruling their hearts, Then how do you expect this kind of body life? From ephesians and Colossians. Peacemakers in the body of christ. One day and this is amazing. One day, the lord jesus. Will return. And between those who, Uh, raised first and those who are caught up in the air together with him.

100 percent. Of the elect. Will have been. Joined to christ by faith. Will have been perfected and holiness. Will have been resurrected. And on that day. God will own them. As his children.

They will be called, we will be called the sons of god. That, which belongs only to the lord
jesus.

Will be set of us. And jesus will not be ashamed or despised to be called for us to be called his
brethren, or for him to be called our brother, and we will have by his spirit been made, so
exactly like him in his perfected humanity, that it will be the truth.

We are already called the sons of god. And what we will be. Has not yet appeared. But what
we should be already. And increasingly until then. Is peacemakers. And we should count that.
One of our highest privileges. To be peacemakers in his creation peacemakers in our nation
and our neighborhood peacemakers in his body.

Until we have been perfected and the peace has been perfected. And we are declared. Before
a new heavens and a new earth and all of the holy angels and the rest of the glorified humanity.
To be the sons of god. Remember to pray. Oh lord. We thank you and praise you.

For your day and for your word and for opportunities. To. Common consider. The greatness of
what you have given us to do. Day by day in our marriages our homes, our workplace, our
neighborhood, Your creation. Because we confess to you, oh lord, that we are often forgetful.
We're often forgetful of the greatness of the peace that you have given to us.

And being forgetful of that, our hearts are left unguarded. And without the your peace ruling our
hearts. Oh lord. We descend into. Being agents of chaos and enmity. Everywhere we go. So we
pray for the help of your holy spirit that he would make us to see the blessedness that you
have given us already in christ.

Both the blessedness of the peace that we have with you and him and the peacemakers That
you are making us to be. By your grace and him. And so help us. We pray, holy spirit. To live in
the knowledge of the truth that we have heard proclaimed from your word today.

For, we ask it in jesus name. Amen.