

Matthew 5:9

True Peacemakers II

Pursuing peace ...

- I. Peace on the Cross
 - A. Accomplished & Applied

 - B. Experienced & Exercised
- II. Peace in Practice
 - A. With God

 - B. With Self

 - C. With Others
 - 1. You and Them

 - 2. Them and Them

... in imitation of Christ.

Children, Listen ...

1. How is it that sinners can have peace with God?
2. Will having peace in our heart help us get along with others?
3. How will praying for those who trouble us help?
4. Why is it important to listen to what people who have something against us have to say?

More About Peace

Last week I mentioned that a friend suggested that preaching just one verse was not the best way to go about teaching God's people. I understand that it feels like there should just be more. While there is always more it sometimes strikes me how one little verse from God's Word can be so filled with implications for us. So here I go, not only one sermon on one verse but two! Sorry friend. After the sermon another careful listener told me that they would have liked to know more about how to make peace with other people. I will readily confess that the "vertical" peace we enjoy with God is a lot easier to preach as it really is the plain Gospel. After all, while receiving such peace requires faith in Jesus on our part, God is the initiator who extends such peace to us through His mercy and grace. The "horizontal" kind is, in many ways, a lot trickier. As one semi-famous theologian said "sin complicates things" – so getting along with other sinners, especially those who like to cause us trouble, can be complex. My hope is that, as explore God's Word together, we will get more insight into our character as peacemakers and that we would understand better how to implement the principles God gives us in His Word so - "If possible, so far as it depends on you, (you might) live peaceably with all." Romans 12:18