**Life Team Bible Study**

For the week of May 27 – Beatitudes wk 6 – Peace!

**HANG**

* Can you give examples of conflict in life?
* Have you ever seen peace achieved in a situation? How was it handled?
* What do you think are the qualities of peacemaker?

**HEAR**

We continue our study on the Beatitudes - the word means “blessings”.

All the “beatitudes” in Matthew 5 begin with “Blessed are…”

**Matthew 5:3-11**

* Do you have them memorized yet? Try…
* Can you explain how each of the beatitudes build upon each other?

**Let’s focus on the next one**

**Matt 5:9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.**

**Peacemaker – here is literally a - “peace lover”**

**Colossians 1:19-20, Romans 5:1, 2 Peter 1:2**

* **According to those verses how to we have peace?**
* **What is the message of peace? The gospel – explain we have peace with God through Jesus.**
* **Was there anything that stood to you from Sunday’s message?**

**A few highlights:**

* **Peacemakers focuses on people’s hearts (peace is an inside job)**
* **Peacemakers are not trouble makers or trouble avoiders. (They confront)**
* **Peacemakers keep bridges open. (They are gentle and patient)**
* **Peacemakers are peace preachers.**
* **How does working for peace honor Jesus?**

**Being a peace preacher**

**Romans 10:15, Acts 10:36, Eph 2:14-17, 2 Corinthians 5:17-21**

* **What does it mean to preach peace? To share the message of Jesus**
* **Do you have to know everything to share Jesus?**
* **Are there things we need to know? Like what? Jesus is God, he gave his life for our sins, rose from the dead, by faith i we are forgiven & made new.**
* **Is Jesus the peace maker? Then, why not share it? Be a peace maker!**
* **Why is it so hard at times to bring peace to those around us?**

**Sunday, looked at the peace makers, tonight let’s look at Peace breakers:**

**Contentious - Proverbs 26:21. 15:18, 2 Timothy 2:23-24, Romans 14:1**

* **What is another word for contention? Argues, strife, attacks, “stirs the pot”**
* **How does that passage relate to this?**

**Negativity**

**James 3:3-13, Ephesians 4:29, 5:4, Ecclesiastes 10:12. Romans 14:19, Colossians 3:8, 4:6**

* **How would you describe negative words? Angry, hurtful, too many…**
* **How do the scriptures we read describe the power of our words?**
* **How might our words – break peace?**

**Revenge**

**Romans 12:18-19, Leviticus 19:18, Proverbs 20:22, Romans 12:16-18, Ephesians 4:27**

* **How does revenge affect peace? It causes more fighting.**
* **How are we to respond to those who hurt us?**

**Rudeness**

**James 3:16-18, 1 Corinthians 13:1-8, Proverbs 15:1**

* **How does being rude break peace?**
* **How can we counter act rudeness?**

**Gossip / slander**

**Proverbs 16:28, 26:20, 17:4, Psalm 101:5, Exodus 23:1, 2 Timothy 2:16,**

* **How does gossip and slander break peace?**
* **How can we counter act gossip / slander?**

**Before you repeat something ask:**

* + **Is this true – as a fact?**
  + **Does this involve me?**
  + **Can I quote you on this?**
  + **Can I tell them you said this?**
  + **Then why are you telling me?**

**Self-intitled**

**Colossians 3:15, Phil 4:11-13**

* **How would you describe a person who is self-entitled?**
* **How might an attitude of entitlement break peace?**
* **According to the verses is the remedy for this? Gratitude & contentment**
* **How can we live those two out?**

**Sin**

**Isiah 48:22, Psalm 32:1-5, Psalm 38:1-8,**

**You can never live in peace – with sin**

**Peace begins at the cross – with confession and forgiveness**

**HANG**

* **What do you think hinders you from being a peace maker? Why?**
* **Is it more difficult to bring about peace with family or friends? Why?**
* **What current situations exist where you could serve as peacemaker? How?**

**HOME**

**Acts 15 - gives a picture of conflict in the early church. Write down at least 4 ways you they achieved peace. (A hint – the answer is not compromise.)**

* **What can you learn from it?**

**Matthew 18 - Jesus gives a process for reconciliation? Write it out.**

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