

Home - Pt 2 - Peace
December 14, 2025

As you join this discussion, let the Holy Spirit guide you. Share your thoughts and reflect on the message. Work through the guide by reading Scripture and answering a few questions.

Open Up:

- What's the most "peaceful" place you can think of—from your childhood, a favorite vacation spot, or even your couch? What makes it feel peaceful to you?

Read Together:

Jeremiah 6:14

They dress the wound of my people as though it were not serious. 'Peace, peace,' they say, when there is no peace.

Matthew 2:13-15

When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him." So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son."

Matthew 2:16

When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi.

Matthew 2:17

Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: "A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more."

Isaiah 9:6-7

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

Ephesians 2:14

For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility.

Matthew 5:9

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God

Discuss Together:

- What stood out to you from this message?

The Christmas Truce of 1914 wasn't true peace—just a temporary ceasefire. In what ways do we still settle for "fake peace" today?

- Why do you think Matthew includes the darker, painful parts of the Christmas story (Herod, violence, fleeing, exile)? What does this tell us about the world Jesus entered?
- Jesus' family fled to Egypt as refugees. How does seeing Jesus begin His life displaced help us understand His compassion and mission in a deeper way?
- Matthew 5:9 says, "Blessed are the peacemakers." What do you think is the difference between peacekeeping (avoiding conflict) and peacemaking (working toward restoration)?
- Where have you sensed a longing for peace—either personally or in the world around you—and how does the Christmas story speak into that longing?
- Why do you think "home" and "peace" are so closely connected in the Christmas narrative? How might Jesus redefine both for us?

Pray:

Pray for Jesus, the Prince of Peace, to bring *shalom* into one specific area of your life,

restoration, wholeness, or healing, and ask Him to show you how to be a peacemaker in your relationships this week.

Invitation:

Identify one relationship, situation, or space where God is inviting you to actively *make* peace, not just keep it. Take one concrete step this week toward restoration, truth-telling, forgiveness, or compassion.