



# PEACEMAKERS

## Peacemakers: "The Story of Shalom"

November 2 & 3

**Speaker:** Pastor Heather Zempel

**Scripture:** Matthew 5:23-24; Matthew 5:43-44; Matthew 20:26-28

### Series Overview

Jesus taught, "blessed are the peacemakers," and then He backed this up with teaching after teaching to help us live this out. For the next six weeks, we'll study and practice the art of peacemaking. We'll focus on the teachings of Jesus, and our response will be our missional calling into the world.

### Series Question

How can you engage in the following four practices of peacemaking this week?

1. Ask anything
2. Listen well
3. Disagree freely
4. Love regardless

### Sermon Overview

Something has gone wrong with the world, God has a plan to set it right, and his people are challenged to play a role in the restoration. Jesus said, "blessed are the peacemakers." Peacemakers go out of the way to make peace, love their enemies to make peace, and leverage their power to serve to make peace. In this series, we will endeavor to be on mission with Jesus every day by practicing the ways that make for peace. Ask anything, listen well, disagree freely, love regardless.

## Sermon Questions

What does Jesus mean by, “blessed are the peacemakers”? What is the difference between being a peace-maker and a peace-faker?

In light of Matthew 5:23-24, when was the last time you went out of your way to reconcile and make peace with your neighbor?

Daoud Nasser lives by the mantra: “We refuse to be enemies.” In an “us” vs. “them” world, how can you practically build bridges with those in your community? Who is your enemy, and how do you choose to love them?

Pastor Heather presented these four practices of peacemaking:

1. Ask anything
2. Listen well
3. Disagree freely
4. Love regardless

What is the biggest barrier for you when asking or answering tough questions?

What does it look like to listen well?

How do we disagree freely?

Is it hard for you to love regardless? Why?

Pastor Heather shared that Jesus leveraged his power as he knelt to wash his disciples’ feet and serve. What do you do when it occurs to you that you are the most powerful person in the room? How might you leverage your power or position to make peace?

Close your eyes. Take a few minutes to imagine being a people that make way for peace. What do you see? What do you hear?

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## Practical Application

- Whether it’s across the room or across the continent, “go out of your way to make it right” in order to bring reconciliation to a strained relationship.
- Pray for and seek opportunities for lively banter and discussion with others who have different opinions, thoughts, and experiences than you.
- Spend time reading through [November’s Next Magazine](#) handed out at church on Sunday and praying through which local opportunities, global opportunities, or upcoming events in which you might be able to participate.