



Peacemakers:

The Position, Posture, and Power of a Peacemaker

December 7 & 8

Speaker: Pastor David Schmidgall

Scripture: John 20:19-22

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 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 practice the following four ways of being a peacemaker this week?

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

Sermon Overview

Four simple words exploding with meaning – “peace be with you.” Jesus’ first words after being raised from the dead are loaded with cultural and historical meaning. Within these four words there is much more than meets the eye and more relevance to our culture in crisis than ever.

Sermon Questions

How do you see yourself as a peacemaker?

Do you believe your value is not based on what you produce? Why or why not? What makes it hard to believe that?

In a previous sermon, Pastor Mark stated that we are all priests because we are a priesthood of believers. In this weekend's sermon, we learned that priests were peacemakers. How are you living out your priesthood? Why do you think the priests were known as peacemakers?

Share an experience of being sent. What did you learn, and how did you grow from that experience?

In what ways have you served as a peacemaker this past year? How could you make time this upcoming year to serve and to make peace? In what areas can you see yourself living out the vision of being on mission everyday?

Practical Application

- Spend time this week in silence, whether a couple minutes each day or a longer period of time at some point during the week.
- Spend time again reading through [November's Next Magazine](#) handed out at church and praying through which local opportunities or global opportunities you might be able to participate in next year.
- Repeat this Franciscan blessing throughout the week:

May God bless us with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships, so that we may live deep within our hearts.

May God bless us with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that we may work for justice, freedom, and peace.

May God bless us with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, hunger, and war, so that we may reach out our hands to comfort them and turn their pain into joy.

And may God bless us with enough foolishness to believe that we can make a difference in this world, so that we can do what others claim cannot be done, to bring justice and kindness to all our children and the poor.