

Sermon Title: **“BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS”**

Matthew 5:1-12

- Our world is hungry for peace
- “NO God, NO peace ... KNOW God, KNOW peace”
 - God’s the One, who delivers this kind of peace
- The idea of “Peace” is mentioned approximately 400 times in Scripture
 - Jesus’ ultimate purpose in coming to the world He created was to bring peace between God & man
 - EACH of us should strive to make peace, as much as it depends on us (whenever possible)
 - As followers of Christ, we should be ALL about reconciliation
- After personally experiencing God’s peace, we get to point others to peace with God & we get to be used to make peace between our siblings in Christ
- Have you ever considered the drastic difference between being a peacekeeper & a peacemaker?
 - “Peacekeepers” = maintain peace (they keep the status quo)
 - “Peacemakers” = go out of their way to end hostilities (they actively look to bring quarrelsome people together)
- The Jewish people were under Roman authority (& could ONLY participate in what Rome tolerated)
- To the Zealots, the idea of being peacemakers would have flown in the face of their political/religious passions
 - There are Biblical Truths that are 100% Undeniable worth fighting for (& we should stand firmly upon them)
 - Do my Preferences Cause Division?
 - Imagine how our Daddy Feels when there’s Division inside His Family over Man-Made Preferences
 - Our Peace Points Others to a Very Real Looming Judgment where if we DON’T know God, we WON’T know Peace
- The World Around us is Watching – Do they see a Fractured Family OR Do they see a People of Peace?