

Gathering

PEACE

Captain Katie Tripari, Bayridge Corps

Today's world offers many ways in which we can pursue peace. We are encouraged to seek peace through meditation, yoga, nature, financial stability, and other means. However, in his work *"Mere Christianity,"* C.S. Lewis reminds us that *"God cannot give us a happiness and peace apart from Himself, because it is not there. There is no such thing."* When Jesus Christ entered the world, He brought with Him an opportunity for all people to experience real, life-changing peace. Proclaiming Christ's arrival, the angels sang

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased" (Luke 2:14, NLT).

Although God's offer of peace is available to all, not all choose to receive this precious gift. Peace is given to those *"with whom God is pleased"* (Luke 2:14), to those who choose to receive Jesus the Messiah as their Savior and strive to glorify God through their life. True, persistent peace cannot be found and maintained by our own efforts. It is only through the saving grace and radical love of our Savior, Jesus Christ, that we may find and experience deep, lasting peace. As we live and walk in this peace, we glorify God through our words and actions.

After reading Scripture, consider these questions:

- In what practical ways have you sought peace in the past?
- Share about a time or experience when you pursued peace apart from Christ and it failed (or failed to last).
- How can we glorify God through our lives?
- How can we invest in our relationship with God and continue to experience the peace He gives?

Complete your monthly report and turn it in to the Corps Officer.

Luke 2:14, NLT

Gathering

PEACE

In what practical ways have you sought **peace** in the past?

Gathering

PEACE

Share about a time or experience when you pursued **peace** apart from Christ and it failed (*or failed to last*).

Gathering

PEACE

How can we glorify **God** through our lives?

Gathering

PEACE

How can we invest in our relationship with God and continue to experience the **peace** He gives?

Gathering PEACE

*“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and **peace** on earth to those with
whom God is pleased”*



Luke 2:14, NLT

Gathering PEACE

*“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and **peace** on earth to those with
whom God is pleased”*



Luke 2:14, NLT

Gathering PEACE

*“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and **peace** on earth to those with
whom God is pleased”*



Luke 2:14, NLT



God offers us the opportunity to receive deep, life-changing peace through His Son, Jesus Christ. As a result of this beautiful gift, we have the opportunity to experience peace with God, peace with others, and peace within ourselves. Explore the following verses and consider

how you might achieve peace in these three ways and proceed to glorify God in the process.

PEACE WITH GOD – READ ROMANS 5:1–2 AND JOHN 3:16.

1. Why is it important to pursue peace with God?
2. What does it mean to be “*justified through faith*?”
3. Consider one person to whom you can “*boast in the hope of the glory of God*” (*Romans 5:2*). Share of God’s goodness, grace, and offer of peace with this person.

PEACE WITH OTHERS – READ EPHESIANS 4:1–3 AND ROMANS 12:18.

1. Why is it important for us to pursue and maintain peace with others?
2. In what practical ways can you intentionally foster peace with those around you?
3. Consider one person with whom you need to reconcile or make peace. Take steps this week to pursue peace in this relationship.

PEACE WITHIN YOURSELF – READ PHILIPPIANS 4:6–7 AND JOHN 14:27.

1. What things in your life threaten your peace?
2. How is the peace God offers different from the peace the world offers?
3. Consider one way in which you can reconnect with God this week. Intentionally take this action step so that His peace may cover you and “*guard your heart and mind in Christ Jesus*” (*Philippians 4:7*).



God offers us the opportunity to receive deep, life-changing peace through His Son, Jesus Christ. As a result of this beautiful gift, we have the opportunity to experience peace with God, peace with others, and peace within ourselves. Explore the following verses and consider

how you might achieve peace in these three ways and proceed to glorify God in the process.

PEACE WITH GOD – READ ROMANS 5:1–2 AND JOHN 3:16.

1. Why is it important to pursue peace with God?
2. What does it mean to be “*justified through faith*?”
3. Consider one person to whom you can “*boast in the hope of the glory of God*” (*Romans 5:2*). Share of God’s goodness, grace, and offer of peace with this person.

PEACE WITH OTHERS – READ EPHESIANS 4:1–3 AND ROMANS 12:18.

1. Why is it important for us to pursue and maintain peace with others?
2. In what practical ways can you intentionally foster peace with those around you?
3. Consider one person with whom you need to reconcile or make peace. Take steps this week to pursue peace in this relationship.

PEACE WITHIN YOURSELF – READ PHILIPPIANS 4:6–7 AND JOHN 14:27.

1. What things in your life threaten your peace?
2. How is the peace God offers different from the peace the world offers?
3. Consider one way in which you can reconnect with God this week. Intentionally take this action step so that His peace may cover you and “*guard your heart and mind in Christ Jesus*” (*Philippians 4:7*).