

B. Follow the peace strategy.

Plan a peace meeting.

"Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother."

Matthew 18:15

Empathize with their feelings.

"Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others."

Philippians 2:4

Attack the problem, not the person.

"A soft answer turns away wrath, But a harsh word stirs up anger."

Proverbs 15:1

Cooperate as much as possible.

"If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men."

Romans 12:18

Emphasize reconciliation, not resolution.

"Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation,"

II Corinthians 5:18

III. ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF BEING A PEACEMAKER

A. It brings happiness - *"blessed"* (5:9a).

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is For brethren to dwell together in unity!"

Psalm 133:1

B. It brings holiness – *"called the sons of God"* (5:9b).

"34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. 35 By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

John 13:34-35

ARE YOU TRULY HAPPY?

"...Happy are the people whose God is the LORD!"

Psalm 144:15b

TRULY HAPPY

Happy Are The Peacemakers

Pastor Steve Reynolds

INTRODUCTION

A. "Where can I find TRUE happiness?" Virtually everyone has ask this question at some point. The challenge is finding true happiness in a world full of fake. The good news is true happiness is available and can be found in God.

"...Happy are the people whose God is the LORD!"

Psalm 144:15b

Yes, God wants you to be TRULY HAPPY! But God's plan for true happiness looks very different than you would expect.

B. God reveals His plan for human happiness in what is called the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12). Join the Capital Family for a journey through this famous Bible passage and find out what Jesus said about true happiness in a world full of fake.

Oct 10	Let's Get Truly Happy
Oct 17	Happy Are The Humble
Oct 24	Happy Are The Sad
Oct 31	Happy Are The Meek
Nov 7	Happy Are The Hungry
Nov 14	Happy Are The Merciful
Nov 21	Happy Are The Holy
TODAY	Happy Are The Peacemakers
Dec 5	Happy Are The Persecuted

C. **TEXT:** Matthew 5:9

- The fake way to happiness is having the right circumstances. It is based on "when and then thinking".
- The true way to happiness is having the right characteristics.

"If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them."

John 13:17

HOW TO BE A PEACEMAKER

I. KNOW WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A PEACEMAKER

A. It is not...

- Ignoring the problem.
- Avoiding the person.
- Compromising the principle.

B. It is actively seeking to resolve the conflict.

“endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”
Ephesians 4:3

*“23 Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you,
24 leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way.
First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.”*
Matthew 5:23-24

*“20 If someone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?
21 And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also.”*
I John 4:20-21

II. DO WHAT IT TAKES TO BE A PEACEMAKER

A. Find peace yourself through Jesus Christ.

*“For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given;
And the government will be upon His shoulder.
And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty
God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”* Isaiah 9:6

The Bible speaks of peace in two ways:

- Peace with God through salvation.

“Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,”
Romans 5:1

- Peace of God through sanctification.

*“6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;
7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”*
Philippians 4:6-7