

## BE A BRINGER

“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....” John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

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## PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....” I Samuel 12:23a

**MISSIONARIES OF THE WEEK**



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**TED & TONIE FARRIS | NEW MEXICO, USA**

**PRAISE** - We have 6 men (Jerry, Jasper, Lynol, Isaiah, Ferlin, & Jimmie) who have been aiding me in preaching and teaching. Please pray that God would call some of these men into full-time service.

**PRAY** - With COVID cases rising, we have been relegated once again to our fellowship hall and have had to cancel our women's retreat. However, I am teaching weekly Bible lessons and Mildred has started a new sewing class for the ladies. Pray that God would go before us and allow us to minister well to our community.





Handout: 11/21/21  
  
 Study: 11/28/21

## Happy Are The Peacemakers

Scripture does not extol the blessings of being a pacifist or a truce maker; rather, our gracious Lord promises blessings to peacemakers. Far too many believers view peace as a simple absence of conflict. This understanding is no more than a caricature of true peace, a sketch bearing a minor resemblance but without much-needed depth and clarity.

Biblically, peace ties itself to the concept of wholeness and well-being. The Hebrew word shalom (we often translate it “peace”) speaks of a restoration to wholeness, well-being, and blessing that can only come from God. The biblical concept of peace is also closely connected with righteousness, purity, and holiness (James 3.17; Hebrews 12.14; Psalm 85.10). Genuine peace is a state of wholeness and well-being based in righteousness. This is what we are to pursue.

We cannot rightly think ourselves peacemakers if we are content with a truce, with the worldly notions of agreeing to disagree, with vain pretensions of laying down our arms and living without conflict in our “own truth.” Instead, we must seek true peace, a common commitment to righteous wholeness.

Because true peace is based on righteousness, if we are to be peacemakers, we must be committed to battle sin, for it is the violent enemy of righteousness. This battle must begin in ourselves, as we live by the Spirit and put to death the deeds of the flesh (Romans 8.13; Galatians 5.16–26). We must constantly war against the sin in our own lives, lest we disqualify ourselves and undermine our testimony to the world.

If we truly love our neighbors, we will not sit idly by while they wallow in their sin, afraid of the battle, terrified of causing offence. The answer to the pervasive outrage in our culture is not to ignore evil, to shy away from conflict. This approach will only give rise to greater evil. We can not throw up our hands and proclaim, “The world is the world. Sinners gotta sin.” We must fight against the temptation to ignore sin, pretend it doesn’t exist, and—especially—the temptation to compromise. If we are to be peacemakers, we must battle sin. We must proclaim the holiness of God and His standards of righteousness. We must call men to turn from their wickedness to the Savior—man’s only hope of righteousness and peace.

By Christ’s atoning sacrifice, we have peace with God (Romans 5.1; Colossians 1.20). True peace—purity, righteousness, wholeness, well-being—is impossible without Christ. We, as Christians, have the only message of true peace. If we are to be peacemakers in the midst of an outrage-filled, violent, dying world, we must exalt Christ. If we are truly the sons of God, we must proclaim Him.

Source: “Blessed Are The Peacemakers” by Eric Dodson

## KEY VERSE

Matthew 5:9 (NKJV)

*“Blessed are the peacemakers,  
For they shall be called sons of God.”*

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## WEEKLY READINGS

**Monday: Matthew 5:1-12; Ephesians 2:11-22; II Corinthians 5:20**

### Introduction

1. The article on the cover mentions there being a difference between peace and the absence of conflict. What is the difference?
2. According to Ephesians 2:11-22, what conflict were we in and how did Christ reconcile the conflict?

**Tuesday: Ephesians 4:3; Matthew 5:23-24; I John 4:20-21**

### Know What It Means To Be A Peacemaker

3. What are some characteristics of a person who is a peacemaker?
4. Describe a time when you have been a peacemaker.

**Wednesday: Isaiah 9:6; Romans 5:1; Philippians 4:6-7**

### Do What It Takes To Be A Peacemaker

5. According to today's readings, how can we find peace through Jesus?
6. If you have peace with Jesus, how does that impact your life and your ability to be a peacemaker?

**Thursday: Matthew 18:15; Philippians 2:4; Romans 12:18**

### Follow The Peace Strategy

7. What does today's scripture reading tell us about being a peacemaker with others?
8. What are some obstacles to being a peacemaker with others?
9. List other Beatitudes that help us in being peacemakers.

**Friday: Matthew 5:9; Psalm 133:1; John 13:34-35**

### Enjoy The Benefits Of Being A Peacemaker

10. What are some of the benefits to peace making?
11. In what way can peacemakers be called children of God?
12. Where in your life do you see the need for reconciliation? What steps will you take to be a peacemaker in those situations?