MATTHEW 5:9 - DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS - (SERMON MP3)

Review and respond to the following main points from (Matthew 5:9). What do you need to know, believe, or do after hearing Christ's words? What changed as a result of your encounter with the Scriptures?

		A peacemaker is not a socio-political pacifist, nor is he an appeaser who avoids conflict. Instead, he is one who actively pursues peace with a commitment to honesty and a willingness to risk pain.
		A peacemaker demonstrates the character of the Kingdom and can be identified as a "son of God."
		If you want to be a peacemaker, you must have peace with God and peace within. Only then can you have peace with others.
recon	ci	to have peace we require a mediator — a person or persons who can represent both sides in the dispute and help effect liation. For human beings at enmity with a holy God, who is that mediator? Look up (1Tim. 2:5-6) to help wer this question.
		What is it about his person, life, and nature that make him the perfect mediator and peacemaker? What verses support your answer?
		What are some of the qualities that should characterize us in our endeavors to make peace? How does (Gal. 6:1-2) help us? What other passages inform your answer?
-		or fault when you take a stand for what's right and it causes division? If you have alienated someone and brought down their bon your head because you have done or said what is right, have you ceased to be a peacemaker?
		How does (Rom. 12:18) offer some insight? Should we equate peacemaking with peace-achieving YES NO? Explain your answer.
		Jeremiah was a true peacemaker yet he was always in the midst of conflict. The religious leaders of his day foolishly talked of peace but refused to repent of the sin that inhibited its realization.
		According to (Jeremiah 8:11-12) what did the false prophets proclaim? What do you think it means, "they healed the wound of my people lightly?" Take a look at (Ezekiel 13:10-15) for another parallel analogy.
		If we are going to be peacemakers we must be like Jeremiah who held out the standard of God's righteousness even though he personally suffered from the conflict that ensued. Do you struggle doing God's will and proclaiming His standard sometimes YES NO. Have you struggled with this in the outworking of what it means to be a peacemaker?
		emaker strives primarily to bring men and women into reconciliation with God and secondarily into reconciliation with one • Read (2Cor. 5:14-21) and jot down 3 significant thoughts or reflections from that passage about peacemaking. How does (Isaiah

How does the theme of peace and peacemaking fit into the Christmas season? Who proclaimed it? Who prophesied it? Who mediated it? Who received it? Jot down some thoughts and supporting scripture passages to share with your study group.

52:7) fit into your thoughts on the link between peacemaking and sharing the Gospel?

Peace with God (Col. 1:19-20; Rom. 5:1-2) Have you been set at peace with God by accepting Jesus your Savior? What kind of peace did you experience when you got saved? Share that with your study group.	s as		
Peace within (Isaiah 26:3; 32:17; 48:18; Ps. 119:165) Are you experiencing the kind of internal peace you desirnot, why?	re? If		
Peace with others (Col. 3:13, 15; 1Thess. 5:13-15) Are you at peace with other people? If not, from whom an estranged? Why? Has the peace and unity of the Christian community been disrupted by a conflict you are involved in? What effect might this dispute having on the reputation of Christ? What have you done to be reconciled? Do you believe you are free to worship God, or do you need to make anoth effort to restore unity with some other person?	e be		
While Christians are supposed to be peacemakers, the evil one seeks to promote conflict. He may tempt us to greed and dishonesty (Acts 5:3), he may deceive and mislead (2Tim. 2:25-26), he may take advantage of unresolved anger (Eph. 4:26-27), or use false teachers to stimulate controversy (1Tim. 4:1-3). Satan prefers that we do not recognize his role in our conflicts.	е		
According to the following passages, how should we strive for peace (Rom. 15:5-7; 1Cor. 1:10; Gal. 5:19-22; Col. 3:13, 15; 1Thess. 5:13-15)?			
Write down two specific application sentences in connection with the admonitions to peace referenced above. (Ex. "I need to bear with other Christia our church who annoy me and instead of distancing myself from them I need to let the peace of Christ rule my spirit.")	ıns in		
Ken Sande wrote, "Peacemakers are people who breathe grace. They draw continually on the goodness and power of Jesus Christ, and then they bring his love, mercy, forgiveness, strength, and wisdom to the conflicts of daily life." He goes on to offer "The four G's of Peacemaking." Jot down some reflections after reading them. Do you agree? What do you think about the order? Did he leave anything out? Do you include each component in your peacemaking attempts?			
Glorify God – How can I please and honor God in this situation? Name Prayer Need			
Get the log out of your own eye – How can I show Jesus' work in me by taking responsibility for my contribution to this conflict?			
Gently restore – How can I lovingly serve others by helping them take responsibility for their contribution to this conflict?			
Go and be reconciled – How can I demonstrate the forgiveness of God and encourage a reasonable solution to this conflict?			