



PEACE IN A DIVIDED WORLD

Isaiah 9:2,6; Ephesians 2:14-18

*“Behold, a virgin
shall conceive,
and bear a son,
and shall call his
name Immanuel.”*

~ Isaiah 7:14, KJV

The Big Ideas from the Message

- ◆ Peace is the pursuit of completeness.
- ◆ Peace is the perfect plan of God.
- ◆ Peace comes through the presence of Christ.
- ◆ Ultimate peace is the promise of Good News.

Discussion Questions

1. When you hear the word *peace* what comes to mind? Is there a particular song or person that springs to mind?
2. Think of a time in life when you felt peace even though brokenness or conflict was present.
3. Isaiah 9:2 says, “the people walking have seen a great light.” Peace is not the absence of darkness, but the presence of wholeness and fulfillment. How would you explain this truth to someone who is currently facing a difficult experience?
4. In Ephesians 4:3, Paul makes a plea to maintain unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. What do you think this means?
 - a. Paul also goes on to say there is one body, one hope, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God... How does this statement help to bring about peace?
5. Peace is not the absence of chaos but an inner understanding that I am not in control and that life is in God’s hand. Discuss the following statement: “The more I control situations, the less peace I experience. The more I surrender situations to God, the more peace I experience.”
6. Isaiah 7:14 reads: “He shall be called Immanuel – God with us!” Paul calls this the mystery of the gospel, or “Christ in us.” Evidently, humans do not produce or manufacture peace in life; it’s the power of God being with us and Christ being in us. What faith disciplines do you use, or could you use, to experience more of the peace of Christ in your life?

Believing the Good News

As you become familiar with God’s Word, it builds your faith. Take a few minutes this week to memorize the verse below. Hiding God’s Word in your heart adds many blessing to your walk with Him.