

GOOD NEWS

of Peace

INTRO

As a child, did you grow up in a family environment that was more “care free” or “cautious”? Give an example of why you would say that.

READ

Isaiah 9:6, Luke 2:13-14, John 14:27

REFLECT/RESPOND

The second advent candle is the candle of peace. Peace is a subject that figures prominently in the Bible and is especially featured in the Christmas story.

We often hear the word peace without thinking much about what it really is and whether or not we have it in our lives.

Qu: How would you describe it when you are experiencing peace in your life?

Three areas where Jesus brings peace are: 1) peace with our circumstances, 2) peace within ourselves and 3) peace with God.

PEACE WITH YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES

The world’s way of achieving peace is often by promising change to our circumstances. Sometimes God is gracious to change our circumstances and sometimes he chooses to support us by providing His abiding presence in the middle of our circumstances.

Qu: Can you name an area of your life where you are still hoping for change in your circumstances but are learning to also be calm and live in the peace of God’s presence?

PEACE WITHIN YOURSELF

All of us are struggling in some way from the pressure of the ongoing pandemic. Our energy and

ability to perform at the level we are accustomed to has diminished.

The good news of the gospel is that we can have peace without performance.

The only reason why the angels could announce peace to the world and that God was pleased with man was because He was sending a Saviour to perform the righteous acts that we could never achieve no matter how hard we tried.

Qu: How well do you handle personal failure? Are you more kind to yourself or hard on yourself?

PEACE WITH GOD

A person who has made their peace with God is someone who has come to the point where they comprehend the fallacy of trying to lead their lives with themselves at the center – and have yielded that place to Jesus.

Qu: Have you made your peace with God?

Qu: Is there someone you are praying for to make their peace with God?

PRAY

That we would grow in the peace that God offers us through his son Jesus.

Pray for any needs in the group or people that you care about.