

Ep. 1025: Should We Be Peacemakers?

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- 1. What is the difference between a peacekeeper and a peacemaker? Why is Jesus considered the most important peacemaker? (See Romans 5:1)
- 2. What necessary process did Paul go through as he was transformed from a peacekeeper (as Saul) to a true peacemaker as a new creature in Christ? What is the similar process for the true followers of Jesus? (See 2 Corinthians 5:16-21)
- 3. What are the steps to becoming a peacemaker as described in the Beatitudes? What will be the results if we become successful peacemakers? How would these results parallel Jesus' life? (See Matthew 5:3-12)
- 4. What are some character traits that may keep us from peacemaking? What can we do to overcome these traits?
- 5. How was Peter a peacekeeper rather than a peacemaker with the Gentile Christians in the incident recorded in Galatians 2? What was Paul's response to Peter when he saw how Peter had acted? How can we avoid this trap? (See Galatians 2:11-14)
- 6. How did Jesus break down the wall between Jews and Gentiles? What is the core idea that underlies all peacemaking within the body of Christ? Why is it so important that we strive to be peace <u>makers</u> among the brotherhood? (See Ephesians 2:13-16, 19-22)
- 7. In dealing with others in our daily lives, should we focus on reducing conflict or refocusing conscience? How can we do this? How do we see Jesus exemplifying the principles needed here? (See Proverbs 16:7-8, Hebrews 12:14-15, Romans 12:14-19)
- 8. If we are angry, can we be peacemakers? How should we handle our natural anger? Is it effective in a peacemaking scenario? Why or why not? (See Proverbs 15:1, Ephesians 4:25-27)
- 9. What is the biggest deterrent to becoming peacemakers? What peacemaking qualities grow as we develop a more Christlike character? What three elements does God give us to overcome our fears and reset our focus? (See 2 Timothy 1:6-8)
- 10. How have you applied your spiritual strength and Godly wisdom when confronted with a problem? How can you become a peacemaker in your own life? (See James 3:13-18)

