

The Peacemakers Class

Macedonia Baptist Church
Cleveland, TN

Time: 9:00AM Sunday

Place: Fellowship Hall (1st Floor)

Teacher: Craig White

Our Class

Our class name -- Peacemakers -- is taken from the Sermon on the Mount where Jesus taught,



“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God.”¹

This statement is both a profound truth as well as a glorious promise. The profound truth is that God would bless *anyone* in this fallen, sinful world. All people are blessed by God in the sense that they are given life and sustained by His creation. However, most people in the world also sit under God’s wrath because they reject His truth.

The blessing that Christ speaks of in this verse is a special blessing. We who once sat under God’s wrath are now blessed, or favored, by Him.

“But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.”²

But there’s more. The reason that Jesus says peacemakers are blessed is this: because “they shall be called the sons of God.” This is not just a prediction, it is a promise! “They shall be called the sons of God.”

It’s important to understand that Jesus isn’t teaching that people become children of God because they are peacemakers. Rather, He is teaching that people are peacemakers because they possess the promise of sonship.

Our class is a group of undeserving yet blessed people of God’s promise. This alone enables us and motivates us to be His peacemakers.

So then let us pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding.³

Our Focus



The focus of our teaching and ministry stems from our understanding of what it means to be a peacemaker. So, what is a peacemaker?

First of all, a peacemaker is a person who has **found peace** with God. Because of Christ’s work on the cross, a peacemaker is at peace with God.

“Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”⁴

Secondly, a peacemaker is a person who **makes peace**. This means that personally, a peacemaker is serious about confession. Just because we are blessed doesn’t mean we have it all together! And, yes, often a peacemaker must deal with sin. By dealing properly with sin, we restore our fellowship with God.

A peacemaker also makes peace inter-personally. Having found peace with God, we understand the importance of being at peace with one another.

“Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, how will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”⁵

Lastly, a peacemaker is a person who **shares peace**. We live in a world characterized by constant conflict. As people who have made peace with God and who strive to maintain peace with one other, we are now called to share the peace of God with others.

“In Christ God was reconciling the world to himself... entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us.”⁶

Our Distinctives

So what makes the Peacemakers class what it is? A good way to answer this is with the letters: **P-E-A-C-E**.

Prayer. Each class includes a time for sharing prayer requests and praises related to our church and our community. We also extend our prayer time outside of class by periodically exchanging personal prayer cards.

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people.⁷

Equipping. Our Bible teaching centers on themes that equip members for life and ministry. These themes include:

God's Sovereignty
Man's Depravity
Christ's Sufficiency
The Authority of Scripture
Real Christianity
Spiritual Maturity
Handling Scripture Accurately
Evangelism & Discipleship



Action. God frequently uses hardships to draw people closer to Himself. In such times, our class is blessed to be an instrument of God's mercy and love. We deliver meals, send cards, and reach out in special ways to those in need both inside and outside our church.

Confession. Confession is simply the act of admitting that something is true. First of all, we emphasize the need for Christians to confess sin. Secondly, we emphasize the need for Christians to confess Christ. We must regularly admit to ourselves and others that Christ is who He said He was: God in the flesh.

Edification. We are a caring class that enjoys building each other up in the Lord. This means living with an attitude of encouragement and love toward one another – something we can only accomplish by the grace of God.

Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.⁸

Contact Information

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Our Purpose



The purpose of our class comes from our church's purpose statement:

To glorify God by
exalting Christ,
equipping believers,
encouraging those in need,
and evangelizing the lost
in Cleveland and
throughout the world.

Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness!⁹

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¹ Matthew 5:9; ² Ephesians 2:13; ³ Romans 14:19;
⁴ Romans 5:1; ⁵ Mark 9:50; ⁶ 2 Corinthians 5:20;
⁷ 1 Timothy 2:1; ⁸ Ephesians 4:29; ⁹ Psalms 115:1