

king's chapel

Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of June 25, 2017

This Week's Focus: Jesus is the Prince of Peace who reconciled us to God, sustains us with an inward peace, and established the church, a community marked by peace.

This Week's Text: Galatians 5:22-23; Colossians 1:15-22; Philippians 4:4-7; Ephesians 2:11-16

What a Friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer!

From *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* by Joseph Scriven

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- What is Paul's purpose for writing his letter to the Galatians (1:6-7)? Who were the Judaizers, and what false gospel/teaching were they spreading? What is the difference between a morally restrained heart relying on the law and a supernaturally renewed heart resting in the sufficiency of Christ's work?
- What does the fruit of the Spirit described in Galatians 5:22-23 teach us about Jesus? What does it teach us about the default condition of our hearts? What is the Spirit's goal in cultivating the fruit in us? (Romans 8:29)
- What is peace (*shalom*)? What is the foundation of true inward peace and peace with one another? What does it mean to have peace with God and how is it possible? (Colossians 1:19-22)
- Discuss how the temple sacrifices of the Old Testament symbolized and foreshadowed Jesus' atoning work that reconciled us to God.

- Presently, are you experiencing inward peace or are you wracked with worry, anxiety, and fear? Why? Read Philippians 4:4-7. How does prayer help us work through and overcome the fears, anxieties, worries in our life? (Isaiah 26:3)
- What's the difference between worry and concern?
- Read Ephesians 2:11-16. How did the cross reconcile us to one another? What new community, marked by peace, did Christ establish with his redemptive work? How is our joy linked to loving others and living on gospel mission?