

When Peace Walks into the Room

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Galatians 5:16–25; Philippians 4:6–7

Every room you walk in, bring peace.

1. A couple of weeks ago a friend said something that challenged and empowered me.
 - a. He was talking to me, about another friend of ours.
 - b. He wasn't even talking about me.
 - c. He made this statement: Every room you walk in, bring peace.

2. In my world and my algorithms, there is a lot of content about commanding a room, controlling a room, and captivating a room.
 - a. To capture the attention of a room and make something happen.
 - b. But this...bring peace into a room?

c. How is that even possible?

3. Surely, that only applies to Jesus. Right?

a. Jesus brought peace into the boat when the disciples were in a storm.

b. One time Jesus walks up to them in the storm and another time Jesus wakes up in the storm. Both times Jesus brings peace into the chaos.

4. Notice this story, right after Jesus' resurrection in Luke 24:36-49

Luke 24:36–49 CSB

³⁶ As they were saying these things, he himself stood in their midst. He said to them, “Peace to you!”

³⁷ But they were startled and terrified and thought they were seeing a ghost.

³⁸ “Why are you troubled?” he asked them. “And why do doubts arise in your hearts?”

³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet, that it is I myself! Touch me and see, because a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you can see I have.”

⁴⁰ Having said this, he showed them his hands and feet.

⁴¹ But while they still were amazed and in disbelief because of their joy, he asked them, “Do you have anything here to eat?”

⁴² So they gave him a piece of a broiled fish,

⁴³ and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴ He told them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures.

⁴⁶ He also said to them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead the third day,

⁴⁷ and repentance for forgiveness of sins will be proclaimed in his name to all the nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.

⁴⁹ And look, I am sending you what my Father promised. As for you, stay in the city until you are empowered from on high.”

Jesus is the Prince of Peace

1. We know this, at least theologically.

a. We have a doctrine that tells us that Jesus is the Prince, the commander and leader, of peace.

b. Peace is an attribute of God, not the other way around.

c. Just like God is love, but love isn't God.

d. When we worship the attributes, we miss the presence.

2. Jesus isn't peace, peace is IN Jesus.

a. Peace works for Jesus, not the other way around.

b. Too often we pursue peace and miss Jesus.

c. Satan is offering a chaotic world the promise of peace without the Presence of Jesus.

d. Satan is offering a hurting world the promise of love without the true source of love which is Jesus.

e. Both are false advertising.

Peace is not the absence of _____ but the Presence of Jesus.

1. I feel like all of us want more peace in our lives.

a. But our definition of peace often begins with the absence of something.

i. No fighting, no pain,

ii. no hard conversations,

iii. no disappointment.

b. Or we believe we will have more peace if we just had a little more....

i. Time

ii. Sleep

iii. Money

2. Notice what Jesus told His disciples:

John 16:33 CSB

³³ I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. You will have suffering in this world. Be courageous! I have conquered the world.”

a. The preposition, ‘in’ marks relationship.

b. It “indicates that someone or something is enclosed, surrounded, or located within a larger space, container, or area.”

c. Notice how grammar changes our lives:

i. We are in this world, because we are human.

ii. In this world we are surrounded, enclosed, and located within a larger space that has suffering.

d. But when we are in Jesus...

i. When we are enclosed, surrounded, and located within the larger “person”.

ii. We know that the world, that we are in, that contains suffering, is surrounded and enclosed by the Jesus who has conquered the world.

iii. It’s like a Russian nesting doll.

iv. It’s like my wife’s glass containers at home:

1. Some of them are enclosed 4-5 layers deep.
2. If I want the smallest one, I have to open what feels like countless other containers.
3. As a believer, when I'm in Jesus, I may be enclosed in a world of suffering.
4. But that world is enclosed by the domain of Jesus.

I can be at peace even when I'm hurting, suffering, upset, tired, weary, and worn-out.

1. I can have peace when
 - a. the kids are sick, the husband is stressed,
 - b. our parents are aging, our car is broken down,
 - c. or the dog ate the new couch you are still making payments on.
 - d. I can have and walk in peace, because peace is not attached to things but to Jesus.

2. This also means that I can walk into tense situations,
 - a. angry conversations,
 - b. hospital rooms that are mourning, and bring the peace of God with me.

Peace is not only a gift from God, it is also a fruit of the Spirit.

1. Peace is something that God gives us, and develops within us.
 - a. Notice what Paul said in Galatians.

Galatians 5:16–18 CSB

¹⁶ I say, then, walk by the Spirit and you will certainly not carry out the desire of the flesh.

¹⁷ For the flesh desires what is against the Spirit, and the Spirit desires what is against the flesh; these are opposed to each other, so that you don't do what you want.

¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

Galatians 5:22–25 CSB

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

²³ gentleness, and self-control. The law is not against such things.

²⁴ Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.

We bring peace when_____

1. We walk by the Spirit.

a. When I'm walking by the Spirit, my flesh isn't my boss.

b. When my flesh isn't my boss, I don't do dumb things.

c. When I don't do dumb things, I have more peace.

2. When we walk by the Spirit, the Spirit produces who He is in us.

a. The fruit, the produce, the result of the Spirit in our lives is love, joy, peace...

b. If we live by the Spirit, we will keep in step with the Spirit.

3. Simply: When the Spirit sets the direction and the pace, we will produce and carry His attributes.

a. As believers, we are not merely encouraged to produce and walk in love, joy, peace, patience....

b. We are expected to produce.

i. God wants us to walk in the room and there be more peace than when we entered

ii. God wants us to call a friend and there be more kindness and goodness when we say goodbye.

iii. God wants our lives to be marked by His attributes and not by the works of the flesh.

Just because it's hard, doesn't mean it isn't possible.

1. I now there are many sports fans in the room.

a. There are a lot of debates about who the GOATS are, who the superstars are.

b. If everyone is a superstar, no one is.

c. For me, the superstar is that player that when everything is on the line, that's who you want in the game.

2. Michael Jordan will, forever be in my mind, the greatest basketball player of all time.

a. Because when the game was on the line, you wanted Jordan to have the ball.

b. I heard there is a thing called the WNBA.

i. I don't know much about women's basketball but I know this:

ii. If the game is on the line, I want Caitlin Clark on the court.

c. What about Jack Hughes for TEAM USA hockey, winning shot in overtime to defeat Canada for the first Gold Medal since the miracle on Ice in 1980.

d. Football has almost too many greats to choose from.

e. Baseball does too.

3. The greats all had this thing in common:

a. When the game was on the line, and the outcome was uncertain, there was something assuring and almost peaceful, when the game was in their hands

b. We all know that with Jesus, victory is always possible.

c. Winning is always within reach.

d. With Jesus, tragedy can become triumph and the darkest nights can shine forth like the noonday sun.

4. And I submit to you this: When you walk in the Spirit, and your life is producing the supernatural fruit of the Spirit, that victory is always possible.

a. Winning is within reach.

b. That tragedy can become triumph and you can shine brightly in the darkest of seasons.

c. Not because of who you are but because Jesus is with.

d. Jesus said “I am with you always, even till the end of

the age.”

How do we lead a life peace?

Philippians 4:6-7 CSB

⁶ Don't worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Don't worry about anything.

1. If you stop right there, you have dumb saying.
 - a. It's like going to the doctor and they ask if you have stress.
 - b. When you say yes, they tell you to have less of it.
 - c. It's like Bob Newhart telling you, “Stop It.”
2. This is what the world tells.
 - a. This is what well meaning Christians tell us too.
 - b. Don't worry, don't be anxious, don't stress.

c. Just Stop It!

3. It's like a coach telling the Quarterback, don't hold on to the ball but not telling him what to do with it.

a. We are telling ourselves "don't be anxious!"

b. That's true.

i. God invites us to bring everything to Him.

ii. Nothing is too big or too small.

iii. There is not a data limit that resets monthly or in your lifetime.

4. But too many of us stop here!

a. We never do the next step that makes this even possible.

b. Don't start and stop here.

Prayer, not distraction.

Philippians 4:6 CSB

Don't worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

1. This is the handoff.
 - a. In Everything, through prayer and petition.
 - b. We transfer our worry to God through prayer.
2. What if we viewed worry and anxiety as symptoms and not the issue?
 - a. When we bring the need to God through prayer and petition, sometimes the situation changes.
 - b. Sometimes the answer or resolution is delayed.
 - c. But the worry, the anxiety, the feeling of overwhelm, all of this we give to Jesus through prayer and petition, BAKED with Thanksgiving.
3. An absence of prayer will produce an absence of peace.
 - a. Peace is presence.
 - b. We draw near to God through prayer.
 - c. Perfect love casts out fear.
 - d. But in the absence of God's presence, the void is filled with anxiety, worry, anger, and other non-Spirit related things.

4. Don't just pray at it, pray for it.

God's Presence brings peace.

Philippians 4:7 CSB

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

1. It's hard to bring peace into a room if you don't have God's peace.
 - a. We won't produce peace in our lives if we aren't living and walking by the Spirit.
 - b. This promise, the peace of God, applies when we are "in Christ Jesus."
2. Good News: The Peace of God is for you!
 - a. The peace which surpasses all understanding, reason, and logic.
 - b. This peace is for you.
3. The peace is active!
 - a. God's peace will "guard" your heart and minds.
 - b. And that peace of God goes with us as we walk by the

Spirit.

Time for Peace

1. Do you need God's peace in your life?

a. Today, as we pray, I want to pray for a supernatural jumpstart.

b. Some of us need that supernatural peace in our lives, guarding our hearts and minds.

2. Some of us are walking into rooms and we need to bring peace.

a. When you walk into your house, you are walking on eggshells.

b. When you go to work, you don't know what kind of drama the boss will try to stir up.

c. When you answer your daughter's text, your chest tightens a bit because you have no idea what is waiting for you.

d. I can't promise you that the situation will be different, but we can pray that the peace of God will be with us, produced in us, and flow out of us.

3. We all need to receive more of God's presence in our lives.

a. Maybe you've been praying for the absence of something, and today it's time to start inviting God to enter.

b. This morning, I am convinced that God wants you to have peace, and patience, and gentleness, and kindness, and self-control.

Prayer