

LESSON 5

FINDING PEACE WITH GOD

ROMANS 5:1–21



1 Where do you go and what do you do to experience peace and quiet? Why do we have to get away to have peace?

2 How can we have peace even when life is not peaceful?



Read Romans 5 and the following notes:

☐ 5:1 ☐ 5:3, 4 ☐ 5:6 ☐ 5:8 ☐ 5:9, 10 ☐ 5:11 ☐ 5:12 ☐ 5:13, 14
☐ 5:14 ☐ 5:15–19 ☐ 5:20

3 Paul tells us we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ has done. How does this work? What is required of us in this process of reconciliation?

4 What is the difference between peace *with* God and the peace *of* God? How are they related?

5 This passage sets out three sources of joy for Christians: (1) rejoicing in sharing God's glory (verse 2); (2) rejoicing in problems and trials (verse 3); and (3) rejoicing in our relationship with God (verse 11). What does each of these mean?

6 How can life's problems help us to grow? How should we approach difficult times in order to experience the benefits God wants to bring through them?



7 Why did God want to provide a way to reconcile people to himself?

8 We were God's enemies—he could have destroyed us. What does the fact that God didn't do this say about him? What does it say about us?

9 What was the essential difference between Adam and Jesus Christ? What does it mean to be a child of Adam? of Christ?

We are confronted with a clear choice. We can live as Adam's children and experience the troubling consequences of our identification with him, or we can live as God's children and rejoice in all that God gives us because of our identification with his Son, Jesus Christ. God wants us to have this kind of life, and that starts with making peace—being reconciled—with him. But we can't have peace with God unless we are willing to accept it on his terms. Does he expect us to live a perfect life or perform some regular act of service or religious duty to make him happy? No! He simply asks us to accept by faith that Jesus has once and for all done everything required to bring us to God, no matter what we've done to break that relationship. In our high-stress, modern world, where everything we want or need costs us something and where every relationship places demands on us, this is an offer we cannot afford to pass up.



10 If we are reconciled to God, what keeps us from enjoying the peace he promises?

11 Of the three sources of joy mentioned in question 5, which is most difficult for you to take hold of, and why?

12 Read the chart in chapter 5 entitled “What We Have as Children.” Summarize the key differences between a life lived as a child of Adam and that lived as a child of God. Then describe the most important differences being God’s child has made in your life.

13 After you have been reconciled to God, how can you demonstrate that peace in your life? What should people notice about you that is different from others who have not accepted God’s gift of reconciliation?

14 Write down an area of your life where you are suffering right now and how God can use this experience to shape your character and mold you into the person he wants you to be. Write down ways in which you might be hindering him from helping you grow. Then commit yourself to removing those barriers in your thoughts or actions.



A What belongs to us because of Christ’s blood? his death? his life? What must we do to receive these benefits?

B What does it mean that Christ came “at just the right time” (verse 6)? How should this affect our understanding of God’s timing in other events in life?

C How can we be judged guilty for what Adam did?

D How did the giving of the law cause sin to increase? How does this cause God’s kindness (grace) to increase even more? How might we distort this principle to satisfy our own desires?

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