

1-24-2024 – More in 2024 – Part 3

This study: What we truly need are **More of these 4 in 2024.**

Each week, **4 Ps** we need **more of in 2024: Person. Power. Peace. Passion.**

Three types of Peace.

1 - Peace with God.

- **2 Cor. 5:18** – N.K.J. Ver – “Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself thru Jesus Christ, & has given us the ministry of reconciliation.”
- **Cont. Engl. Ver** – “God has done it all! He sent Christ to make peace between himself and us, and he has given us the work of making peace between himself and others.”
 - God doesn’t want us living disconnected from Him.
- **Rom. 5:11** – CEV – “in addition to everything else, we are happy because God sent our Lord Jesus Christ to make peace with us.”
 - **Prophecy. Isaiah 9:6,7** – “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given . . . and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counseller, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, *The Prince of Peace*...”
 - Jesus born, angels: “*Glory to God in heaven, and on earth, peace*”
 - Jesus came so we could have peace w/ God. No guilt. No fear.
 - Jesus returned to heaven as our “**High Priest.**” Heb. 4:14
 - He’s @ throne of God, interceding. Knows our weakness, fear
 - “So whenever we are in need, we should come bravely before the throne of our merciful God. There we will be treated with undeserved grace, and we will find help.” – **Heb. 4:16**

2 - Peace within.

We’ve all gone thru times when we craved peace. Covid. Sickness. Grief. Guilt.

Rom 15:13 – [NLT] – “I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.”

- Hope & Peace go together.
- Look at how it comes to us: first, **know source - Jesus.** Then, **power.**
 - When we are at peace – trusting - we have hope for tomorrow.

The most faithful followers still struggle with Peace. We all have stress.

Stress causes: headache, fatigue, chest pain, stomach problems, sleep.
Feel anxious, overwhelmed, memory, lack of motivation/focus, depressed
Effects: relationships; overeat; tobacco; misuse drugs/alcohol; isolation

The **remedy for stress is peace**. That remedy comes thru **Jesus**.

We can't control life. We can control our response.

How we respond depends on our faith. Let's look at Jesus –

Mt. 8 - Asleep in the Boat. But still had fear in Garden

Wanna know how strong your faith is? Walk thru the fire. Storm.

Bible has more than 750 verses about the peace of God.

- **Psalm 119:165** – “Abundant peace belongs to those who love Your law; nothing can make them stumble.”

Peace for sleep.

- **Psalm 4:8** - “In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you alone, O LORD, will keep me safe.”

Comforting peace.

- **John 14:27** – “Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled; do not be afraid”

Forgiving peace.

- **Eph. 1:7** – “Through the blood of his Son, we are set free from our sins. God forgives our failures because of his overflowing kindness.”
- **Rom 2:4** - God's kindness leads us to repentance.
- **1 Jn. 1:9** – If we confess our sins, He's faithful & just to forgive ... & cleanse

Strengthening peace.

- **Psalm 29:11** – “The LORD gives strength to his people; the LORD blesses his people with peace.”

Guiding peace.

- **Isaiah 26:3** – “You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you!”
- **Prv. 3:6** – “Seek his will in all you do & he will show you which path to take”

Confident peace.

- **Phil. 4:7** – “And the peace of God, which surpasses every thought, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.”
- **CEV** – “because you belong to Christ Jesus, God will bless you with peace that no one can completely understand. And this peace will *control the way you think and feel.*”

God has peace for every problem!

3 - Peach with others.

- Our peace with other people comes thru Jesus.
 - o **Ephesians 2:14-16.** “¹⁴For Christ himself has brought peace to us. He united Jews and Gentiles into one people when, in his own body on the cross, he broke down the wall of hostility that separated us. ¹⁵He did this by ending the system of law with its commandments and regulations. He made peace between Jews and Gentiles by creating in himself one new people from the two groups. ¹⁶Together as one body, Christ reconciled both groups to God by means of his death on the cross, and our hostility toward each other was put to death.”
- Jesus “himself is our Peace.” He makes different groups of people one.
- Thru the love of Jesus, barriers are destroyed/walls of hostility come down.
 - o In Jesus, we aren’t different people. We’re 1. Same blood joins us.
 - o **Colossians 3:15** – “Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, for to this you were called as members of one body.”
- What about **non-believers**?
 - o **Rom. 12:18** – “If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.”
 - o NLT - “Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone.”
- **The farther we are from God, the more our relationships are messed up.**
 - o To strengthen those relationships, strengthen your relationship w/God.
 - The peace we need more of all comes from Jesus.

Numbers 6:24-26 – Aaron’s blessing to God’s people:

“May the LORD bless you and take care of you; May the LORD be kind and gracious to you; May the LORD look on you with favor and give you peace.”

Song of the week: **Wonderful Peace**