

BIBLE PASSAGE

That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger."

Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God and saying, "Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased."

Luke 2:8-14

Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6-7

KEY TAKE-AWAYS



If you want to rewatch the sermon, go to manheimbic.org/sermon.

On the sermon page search for accompanying video to this discussion prompt by looking at the title or the date displayed on the front.

To connect with a small group or host a small group, please contact the Faith Formation office at faith@manheimbic.org

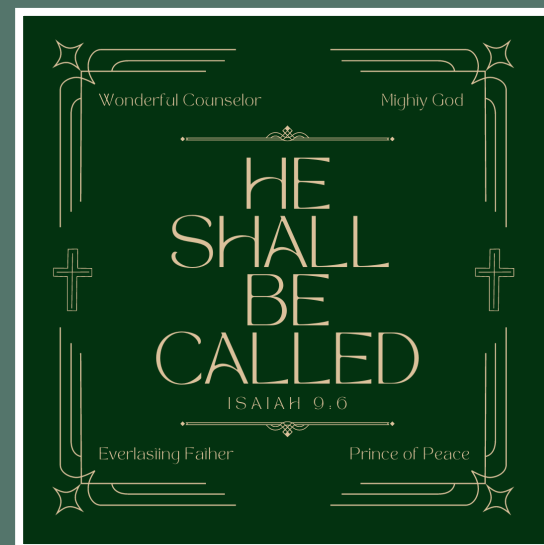
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December 19, 2021

ADVENT PRINCE OF PEACE

SERMON-BASED DISCUSSION



All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals, and to prayer.
Acts 2:42 (NLT)



FAITH FORMATION
connect. grow. lead.



At Manheim BIC we strive to initiate and nurture a growing relationship with Christ.

For your time together:

Connect

Get to know each other. Connect, warm up to each other, fellowship. After a long week of all kind of things, just let everyone arrive.

Care

Carry each others burdens. Share life's challenges and practice Soul Care. Cry together. Support each other. Pray together. - Ask: How are you doing?

Challenge

Dive into God's Word. Use the discussion points. Learn from each others insight. Encourage and challenge each other to live a godly life.

Ask: What is God teaching us today?

Clarify

Make sure that everyone knows what's next. Next in your life with God. Next up within the group. Next in general. Have an applicable mission for the week.

Celebrate

Celebrate life's success and God's provision. Worship God's presence. Time to brag about God. - Ask: What has God done in our life that deserves praise?

GROUP DISCUSSION & LIFE CHALLENGE

Use these notes as discussion prompt for your group, or in your personal time with God.

IN A WORLD THAT IS FULL OF CHAOS, SUFFERING AND UNCERTAINTY, everyone looks for that peaceful moment. But it seems fleeting. As Pastor Dustin mentioned, the peaceful fresh snow gets dirty, the wonderfully peaceful beach scenery gets disrupted eventually. Earthly peace is time bound.

When you hear the word PEACE, what comes to your mind? What do you think of first when you hear PEACE? Write down and share some of the things you associate with peace.

What glimpses of God's Peace have you experienced over the years? Are there a few incidents where you just felt God's presence in the midst of a great storm? Write as if you were writing a journal entry.

What hard situation has lately grabbed a hold of you? When was the last time you went into a FIGHT or FLIGHT mode? Reflect on this for a second and write down what it is mostly that robs you of your peace.

Now do the same with your worries. What are you worried about? What keeps you up at night?

Through many sermons you have heard that "Jesus is present". He is **God with is!** How does knowing this make a difference in your life?

Horatio Stafford lost his wife and children to a tragic shipwreck. When he himself sailed past the spot where his family had died he penned this song:

When peace like a river attendeth my way, When sorrows like sea billows roll, Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say: It is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, Let this blest assurance control, That Christ has regarded my helpless estate. And has shed His own blood for my soul. It is well with my soul.

Close your eyes for a minute. Say to yourself "God is with me. Jesus is my strength. In God's Spirit I find peace." Repeat this phrase a few times. Now remain silent like this for a minute or two.