

BBC Bible Study Notes
From the Advent Series
"The Pathway to Peace"
December 16, 2018

WHY DO WE WORRY?

- "Bad things" happen to _____. (John 16:33)
- The future is _____. (James 4:13-15)
- We are not _____. (Matthew 5:36)

HOW CAN YOU HAVE A "PEACEFUL" HEART? (Philippians 4:6-9)

1. Keep talking to _____ about your life. (vs. 6-7)

- "Dear God, today I need _____.
- "Dear God, I want to thank you for _____.

2. Keep "fixing your thoughts" on what is _____. (vs. 8)

- How do you spend your free time?
- Who are your closest friends?

3. Keep _____ what pleases God. (verse 9)

- What is the first action step I need to take in order to deal with my worry?
- Is there anything I need to stop doing in order to please God?

Recommended Resource: Worry Free Living by Frank Minirth, Paul Meier, and Don Hawkins

BBC Verse of the Week: *"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." John 16:33 NIV*

BBCC DEVOTIONAL GUIDE for December 16-22, 2018

The message this week dealt with how to handle anxiety and experience peace. This Devotional Guide will also explore how to have peace with God and peace with others.

Sunday: Read Isaiah 9:6 and Luke 2:14. Long before Jesus was born the prophet Isaiah said that He would be called the “Prince of peace”. When the angels announced the birth of Christ they spoke of “peace on earth”. Our world today desperately needs the peace that only Jesus can bring. Pray that God will use His truth, His Spirit and His people to bring more peace on earth in our day.

Monday: Read John 14:27. Peace is a topic that bookends the life of Christ. He is born into the world with an announcement of peace by the angels. As He prepares to leave the world He gives the gift of peace to his disciples. How is the peace that Jesus gives different from the peace the world offers us? How can we experience this peace?

Tuesday: In the Old Testament, peace was evidence of God’s blessing. Read Numbers 6:22-26. The greatest joy for God’s people was when God turned His face toward them. This was a symbol of God’s loving attention and involvement in their lives. For the Israelites, the greatest tragedy was when God turned His face away from them. Pray today that God will turn His face toward you and give you His peace.

Wednesday: The Bible is clear that God wants his people to experience peace and the starting point for this peace is peace with God. Why do we need peace with God? Because every person who comes into this world is born at odds with God. Read Psalm 51:1-5. We are sinners and we need a Savior—that’s why Jesus came to our world. He came and lived the perfect life we were incapable of living and then he offered his life as a sacrifice for our sins. Read Romans 5:1 and thank God for the peace that is possible through the sacrifice of Christ.

Thursday: Read Romans 12:18. Jesus came to our world so that we could live at peace with others. There are benefits for handling conflict God’s way: greater understanding and a closer relationship. The very thing that threatens to damage or destroy a relationship can bring two people closer together if they are both willing to deal with problems God’s way—with humility, truth, love and forgiveness.

Friday: Jesus also came to our world so that we could have peace within ourselves. Read Philippians 4:6-7. This passage gives us practical advice for dealing with anxiety: tell God what you need and thank Him for all He has done for you. What can you be thankful for? What do you need from God today?

Saturday: Jesus wants us to share the path to peace with others. Read Romans 15:13. Who do you know that needs to experience God’s peace by trusting Jesus with their life? How can you get to know them better so that you can talk to them about God’s path to peace?

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- We are not in control. (Matthew 5:36)

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1. Keep talking to God about your life. (vs. 6-7)

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More Verses about “peace”: Isaiah 9:6, Psalm 29:11, John 14:27, Romans 5:1, Romans 8:6, Romans 12:8.

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