

THE THINGS THAT MAKE FOR PEACE
ROMANS 14:19

INTRODUCTION:

1. We are encouraged to be at peace with one another. (Mark 9.50; 1 Thess. 5.13; 2 Tim. 2.22; Heb. 12.14; 1 Pet. 3.11)
2. Peace is not something that happens. It is something that is made. We must pursue it. (Rom. 14.19; Matt. 5.9)

I. RESPECT DIFFERENCES OF OPINION

- A. **ROMANS 14.1:** *“Receive one who is weak in the faith, but not to disputes over doubtful things.”* Literally, opinions.
1. The church in Rome consisted of both Jews and Gentiles who each held different opinions. (Rom. 14.2,5,14)
 2. Do you take your opinions and make them a matter of doctrine? Do you treat doctrines as opinions?
- B. What are opinions?
1. Opinions come from thinking thoroughly. (Rom. 14.1)
 2. Opinions separate us. (Rom. 14.2)
 3. Opinions don't matter to God. (Rom. 14.3)
 4. Opinions are personal beliefs. (Rom. 14.5,22)

II. REMEMBER THAT YOU WILL BE JUDGED

- A. **ROMANS 14.10:** *“For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.”* Notice, “all” (vs. 11,12)
- B. **ROMANS 14.13:** *“Therefore let us not judge one another anymore.”*

III. WALK IN LOVE

- A. **ROMANS 14.13:** *“but rather resolve this...”*
1. Since I will be judged by the way I treat other, I need to stop putting the soul of my brother in jeopardy. (v. 13)
 2. If I ridicule another for their opinion and putting their soul in jeopardy, I am not walking in love. (vs. 14,15)
- B. We are to walk in love. (Eph. 5.1,2)

CONCLUSION: Together we can reach our eternal home.

NORTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST **DECEMBER 5, 2021**
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NORTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST

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“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature”
-Mark 16.15

December 5, 2021

MEETING TIMES:

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS : 9:00 AM
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP: 9:50 AM
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP: 6:00 PM
WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS 7:30 PM

JOY TO THE WORLD

To many, joy is a feeling of great contentment when everything in life comes together in perfect harmony. They see it as a goal to be pursued or a prize to be won. In this life, we have occasional flashes of this kind of joy, but it is never lasting and cannot compare to the true and complete joy found in Christ (John 16.33).

David gives us some insight as to the misconceptions of joy. David was made king over Israel, but he did not find real joy in power (1 Sam. 5.3). David had an abundance of gold and treasures, but he did not find real joy in possessions (1 Chr. 29.3). David gave into carnal pleasure, but he did not find real joy in the lusts of the flesh (1 Sam. 11.2-4).

Where did David find real joy? I'll let David answer for himself: *“Restore to me the joy of your salvation”* (Ps. 51.12). For David, real joy was found in a relationship with God. Why is real joy only found in a relationship with God? There are two reasons. First, it is because of what God takes away. He removes guilt. He removes the inner conflict that comes when we know we have failed to do what is right (Rom. 7.15-19,24,25). Second, it is because of what God provides. He gives me hope. He gives me a peace of mind. He gives me acceptance into His fellowship (Eph. 1.6). CLP

HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR PRAYER LIFE

MARK 14:35

INTRODUCTION:

1. The second half of Mark 14 addresses four subjects
 - a) Agony of Jesus. (Mark 14.32-42)
 - b) Betrayal of Jesus. (Mark 14.42-52)
 - c) Court of Jesus. (Mark 14.53-65)
 - d) Denial of Jesus. (Mark 14.66-72)
2. When Jesus was in “*exceedingly sorrowful*” and “*deeply distressed*,” He went to God in prayer. (Mark 14.33-35)
3. Jesus believed in prayer. (Luke 11.1; 18.1; Heb. 5.7)

I. THE SUFFERING OF JESUS

- A. Jesus agonized over the prospect of the cross.
 1. **MARK 14:33:** “*troubled and deeply distressed*”
 2. **MARK 14:34:** “*My soul is exceedingly sorrowful*”
- B. Jesus agonized over His betrayal by Judas.
 1. Judas made a deal of betrayal. (Mark 14.10,11)
 2. Who was Judas? (Mark 3.14; 6.7)
 3. Did Jesus know what was coming? (Matt. 26.25)
- C. Jesus agonized over His rejection.
 1. Jesus was put arrested tried. (Mark 14.53,55, 64,65)
 2. Who was the Sanhedrin? (Acts 5.20;7.52)
 3. Did Jesus know what was coming? (Mark 8.31)
- D. Jesus agonized over His denial.
 1. Jesus predicted Peter’s denial. (Mark 14.30)
 2. Who was Peter? (cf. Mark 14.71)
 3. Did Jesus know what was coming? (Mark 14.30)

II. THE PRAYER OF JESUS

- A. What did Jesus do before He prayed?
 1. He went to a specific place. (Luke 22.39)
 2. He looked for privacy. (Luke 22.40,41; Matt. 6.6)
- B. What did Jesus do while He prayed?
 1. He expressed to God how He felt. (Mark 14.36)
 2. He viewed God as His Father. (Mark 14.36; Matt. 7.9,10)
- C. What did Jesus do after He prayed?
 1. He was strengthened. (Luke 22.43; cf. Heb. 1.14)
 2. He still sorrowed. (Luke 22.44)

CONCLUSION: PHILIPPIANS 4.6,7: Don’t worry. Pray!

THE COMMAND TO LOVE

In 1 Peter 1.22, these words are found: “*Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth*” Do we not read in the Bible that we are cleansed by the blood of Jesus? The apostle John wrote that “*the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin*” Do we not contact the blood of Christ through being immersed in water? Ananias came to Saul and said, “*arise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord*” (Acts 22.16). And is it not faith that compels us to do what God commands us to do by being baptized which puts us in contact with the blood of Jesus? Peter said to Cornelius, “*To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name whoever believes in Him will receive the remission of sins*” (Acts 10.43).

We have faith which compels us to obey the commands of the gospel. Those commands include baptism. Obeying those commands put us in contact with the blood of Jesus resulting in the remission of sins. All of that is summarized in this one verse: “*Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth*” (1 Pet. 1.22).

The very next phrase expresses this concept of love. 1 Peter 1.22: “*...in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart,*” You might find it of interest that the word love as it occurs twice in this verse comes from two different Greek words. The first word is in the phrase “*love of the brethren*” and this word for love is “*philedelphia*.” It is two Greek words put together. The first one is “*phileo*” meaning, to love as a friend. The second word is “*adelphos*” meaning, brother. Literally, love your brother as a friend. The second word is in the phrase “*love one another fervently*”, and this word for love is “*agape*” which carries the idea of desiring what is best for the one who is loved. Here we are as brethren where we have affection for one another loving one another as friends. We are then given a command to desire what is best for one another.

Let’s put it all together. We have been purified because we came in contact with the blood of Jesus. We contacted the blood of Jesus by having a faith that moved us to obey the command of baptism. Since that is true, we as brethren who love each other as friends and are commanded to do what is in the best interest of one another, and we are to do it fervently. We are commanded to love. CLP