

ENCOURAGEMENT IN PEACE MAKING

WEEK 4 LEADER GUIDE

Jesus invites you to come
and learn on the Mountain

MATTHEW 5:9

INTRODUCTION

I want to invite you on a journey! Whatever path you feel that you are traveling on, take a short a detour with me up to a mountain and see where the path leads from there. As we approach this mountain, a NEW GUIDE is available for you!

This guide will take your journey that you were on and introduce a new path that is far greater than your dreams.

This is what Matthew records in his account of Jesus, specifically starting in chapter 5. Jesus invited people who were suffering and dreamed of a coming kingdom! Jesus is revealing the path to this kingdom but it was different from what they had imagined.

MATTHEW 5:9

9 Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they shall be called sons of God.

COMMON WORDS/IDEAS

SERIES DEFINITION FOR ENCOURAGEMENT:

God sees you, God is for you, God is working through you

UNDERSTANDING BLESSED:

To notice of observe in others...

- *Fortunate life*
- *Happy life*
- *The Good Life (weekly phrasing)*

UNDERSTANDING **KINGDOM OF HEAVEN**

Jesus' teaching points to both the future and present Kingdom of Heaven. The coming Kingdom is eternity with God in the new heaven and earth, while the extension is here and now through Jesus—God from heaven bringing hope to earth. Through Him, God establishes “heaven on earth” in the lives of those who surrender to the King.

WHAT DOES IT SAY?

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Read the verse slowly and carefully, paying close attention to the words on the page.

Break it into smaller parts and notice what is actually written – who is mentioned, what is happening, and how things are described.

Highlight or write down words or phrases that stand out to you, especially repeated words or strong action words.

Don't try to explain or figure out what it means yet – your goal here is simply to see and understand what the text says before moving on to the next step.

LEADER NOTES

PEACEMAKER

- Reconciliation
- Complete, whole, restore

Jesus is not describing people who keep the peace by staying silent or avoiding tension – He's describing people who make peace. Peacemakers are those who step into conflict, see what's broken, and actively work toward restoration. They don't just hope for peace; they participate in creating it. The Good Life belongs to those who step into division and bring people together under God's design for wholeness.

SON OF GOD

- Title
- Identity

A great question to ask students as they wrestle with this verse is: "Who is the one calling the peacemakers 'sons of God'?" Most students will quickly answer, "God." But press them a little: Are you sure it's God? How do you know that?

The goal is to lead them to this deeper idea: "Who has the authority to give someone the identity 'child of God'?"

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

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Now that you've broken down the words, look at how they connect to form the whole verse. Take those definitions and phrases and rebuild them into a clear restatement.

Think of it this way: If I had to sum up this verse in one simple, clear sentence, what would it say?

The goal here is to capture the main idea Jesus is teaching. This step moves from vocabulary to message—understanding the truth of the verse in your own words. Remember, this is not yet about how it applies to your life. It's about grasping the meaning of Jesus' teaching as He originally gave it.

LEADER NOTES

The Good Life belongs to those who **OBSERVE brokenness and are willing and equipped to have a conversation and offer a solution. These people will carry identity in God's family.**

What does the rest of the Bible say about PEACE? How are we apart of it?

The order of these verses walk though a process of PEACE

- Is. 48:22
- Rom 5:1
- Col 1:19-20 (vs 16 speaks to God creating everything in Heaven and Earth and reconciles everything in Heaven and Earth)
- Is. 52:7
- 2 Cor 5:17-19 (peacemaking is the ministry of reconciliation)

WHAT DO YOU DO?

WHAT DO YOU DO?

Once you know the words (Q1) and the message of the verse (Q2), now focus on your personal response. Ask: What does this mean for me?

Consider how this verse speaks into your life, choices, and relationships. Where does it challenge you? Where does it encourage you? Where does it call you to change?

This step is about application—taking the truth of Jesus' teaching and discovering what area of your life it moves.

LEADER NOTES

Peacemaking: known & unknown

Recognize brokenness with family friends close to you.

Recognize brokenness in the world around you.

To the job interview illustration: we have a global job that calls us to everyone. Not everyone in the group may be apart of this job, if PEACE has not first touch their heart.

What conversations in your connections of life need peacemakers? How do you pursue peace in these conversations?

Practical Peacemaking to the known and unknown

PRAY: talk with God about being an active peacemaker. Share specific names that you want speak with.

STEP: make the first move - say the first word - start the conversation. Know what you want to say and be prepared.

DIRECT: stay away from your opinion and stay away from a rude attitude. Lead the conversation towards grace and truth - THE GOSPEL.