



MIRACLE GROW - Week 3 Peace: Discussion Guide

TOUCH BASE - 10 Minutes

- 1) On a scale of 1 (I am going nuts) to 10 (I could lead a stress management seminar), what is your anxiety level now? Why?
- 2) Picture in your mind your ideal peaceful setting. Now briefly describe it to the group.
- 3) What insights did you gain from this week's sermon or reading on peace?

TAKE IT IN - 10 Minutes

Watch the video for week 3 entitled "Peace" on the DVD or at tlc.org/miracle_grow.

Video Notes

The Peace that God _____ (reconciliation)

The Peace that God _____

Peace _____ God (right with God)

The Peace _____ God (freedom from anxiety)

The Peace that God _____ for (living at peace - peace maker)

TALK IT OUT - 25 to 35 Minutes

- 1) What insights did you gain from the video?
- 2) What do you think is the opposite of peace?
- 3) What Bible stories illustrate the power of reconciliation and peacemaking?
- 4) Read Philippians 4:6,7 twice, once out loud as a group and once silently, circling any words that stand out to you.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Phil 4:6,7 NIV

- A. In your own words, how would you summarize these verses?
- B. What do you tend to be anxious about?
- C. What do you think is the difference between prayer and petition?
- D. How do you present your prayer requests with thanksgiving?
- E. How does God's peace transcend all understanding? Have you experienced it? If so please share.
- F. What does it mean to you that the God of peace will guard your heart and mind?
- G. How would your day be different if you were not anxious about anything?

5) Read Romans 14:19

... we pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of one another. (NASB)

- A. What does it mean to pursue peace and build one another up?
- B. Do you need to pursue peace with anyone? If so who?

6) What examples can you think of within your own church or culture where Christians have been instruments in bringing peace and reconciliation?

7) Are there conflicts and divisions that are present within your church or the wider Christian community? Consider studying Romans 14 through 15 together as a way of working towards building peace and reconciliation.

TAKE IT WITH YOU - 10 Minutes

Questions for reflection

- 1) In what ways do you think your own life displays peace as a fruit of the Spirit, and in what ways do you need to pray for this to be more true than it is now?
- 2) This week I will pursue peace with _____ .

Close in Prayer

Read St Francis of Assisi prayer on the top of page 67.