

## Peace | Week 2 - How can I find peace?

### Message Big Idea

Through his death and resurrection, Jesus brought us peace.

### Scripture

John 20:19-23, 2 Corinthians 5:17-20, Romans 5:1-5

### Points to Keep In Mind

1. The concept of peace in the New Testament is based on the word Shalom in the Hebrew Bible. Shalom means something closer to harmony. It describes things being rightly related to each other. Shalom is the harmony between family members when they love and enjoy each other's company. Shalom is the harmony between co-workers who link arms in a common cause. Shalom is the harmony between neighbors who live in genuine community. Shalom is the harmony between you and God when you are rightly related. Shalom is how God created the world to be.
2. One Scripture passage that may help us when we are moving toward conflict is James 1:19, "My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry." Listening to understand rather than listening for your turn to talk is a humble and helpful posture in any conversation, especially when in conflict with others.
3. Paul's vision and hope for peace include hardship and suffering. In 2 Corinthians 4:7-18, we see Paul describe that it's through our weaknesses and trials that the hope of God is put on display for all to see. It's hard work to be an agent of peace, and that's why the Church must be a place that is characterized by forgiveness and healing. In our efforts to make peace, we will get hurt, be misunderstood, and mess it up. We need to be renewed by God's love consistently. God wants to pour His love into us through His Holy Spirit.
4. There are many ways we can work for peace in our world today. Visit our Community Cares page to see the various ways our Church is working in the areas of compassion and justice. This ministry is designed to help us take steps toward being a community that works toward Shalom. [communitychristian.org/cares/](http://communitychristian.org/cares/)

### Additional Questions and Resources

1. Where do you see God at work in your life right now?
2. What next steps do you feel called to take in your faith journey?
3. Have you considered getting baptized? [communitychristian.org/baptism/](http://communitychristian.org/baptism/)
4. What have you been learning from the Community Daily? [communitychristian.org/daily](http://communitychristian.org/daily)
5. If someone is seeking professional counseling, you can always refer them to our resource page: [communitychristian.org/mentalhealth/](http://communitychristian.org/mentalhealth/)
6. Find out more about YOU+ by visiting: [communitychristian.org/you/](http://communitychristian.org/you/)