

Peace:

The inner tranquility of the Christian who trusts in Christ.



Jesus, the Prince of Peace said, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” (John 14:27) The peace Jesus promised is the hope and calmness that comes with faith and trust in Him - it is *a peace that transcends all understanding*. With the instability, problems, and difficulties in the world today, how can we have this peace? It is simple, but not easy - we must remain focused on Jesus Christ. We must trust that the God of the universe has it all in control, even when life seems out of control. Sometimes, we will have to give our anxiety to Him day by day, even moment by moment, but through Him, we can have peace in spite of our circumstances.

When we have the peace of Christ in our life, it will positively affect our relationships, especially our marriage relationship. I can tell you that when I am stressed, I tend to be short and snappy with my wife. When I have peace with God and in life, I tend to be more peaceful in my marriage and relationships. Romans 14:19 reminds us to, “Make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification.” It begins with my trust in and focus on the Lord, but I also must make an effort to live peaceably with my wife and others. Peace won’t always be possible, but “as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.” (Romans 12:18)

Do you have peace in your life? Do you have that inner tranquility - that calmness - that comes from a deep trust in the Lord Jesus Christ? He will give you peace, but you have to, by faith, appropriate that peace into your life. It is clinging to Him, even through the darkest of trials. It is being focused on Him, even if your spouse isn’t doing what he or she should be doing. Your peace doesn’t depend on your circumstances, it depends on your faith and trust in Jesus Christ.

Helpful Resources: *Fortified Marriages Resource page: www.fortifiedmarriages.com*

The Fortified Marriages Manual & Workbook is a great resource helping couples experience peace in their marriage relationships. Also see:

Book to check out: *Finding Peace In Life's Storms* by Charles H. Spurgeon

Articles to check out: *Four Foundations of Peace in Marriage* by Jimmy Evans

Peace in Your Marriage by Kirk VanOoteghem