

People living with Stress! Luke 2:1-14 December 18 & 21, 2016: Cam Huxford, Senior Pastor

The Hebrew concept of peace comes from the word "shalom", which refers to the state of well-being, rest, wholeness, and harmony that affects all of life.

The Bible describes the Peace of God as:

- 1. A path. Philippians 4:6-7 NIV
- 2. A gift. Romans 5:1 NIV

Peace <u>WITH</u> God is a gift we receive when we give our lives to Christ. That's the position you have to be in to rationally expect to live with the Peace OF God.

- 3. A position. John 14:27 NIV
- 4. <u>Unconditional</u>. *Luke 2:14 NIV*

To experience the deep Peace of God, you have to be willing to:

1. Seek God's Peace in your relationships.

One of the first things we see in the Christmas story is that reconciliation honors God and brings peace!

There is a strong, unstoppable peace that comes to those who just <u>obey</u> God! *Matthew 5:23-24 NIV*

It's amazing how <u>little</u> effort it takes sometimes to start the healing and get back on the path to peace.

I need to talk to someone about reconciling with before Christmas.

Say the 12 most powerful words in the relational world:

I was wrong, I am so sorry, Please forgive me, I love you.

- 2. Experience God's Peace regardless of circumstances. Isaiah 55:9 NIV
- 3. Expect God's Peace in times of grief. Matthew 2:18 NIV; Philippians 4:7 NIV

When you have the peace of God, even if you have to "walk through the valley of the shadow of death, you need <u>fear</u> no evil, because God is with you."

"Abide in Christ Jesus, and let Him abide in you, and you shall have abundance of peace." – Charles Spurgeon

Ministry Opportunities

For the full list of upcoming events, visit CompassionChristian.com/events.

The Journey CD

Enjoy music from The Journey throughout the Christmas season. A selection of beautiful music pieces performed by musicians from many of our campuses is available on CD at the Resource Center and online from Amazon, iTunes and many other online digital music sites. These CDs make great Christmas gifts!

New Year's Service Times

On New Year's Day we will not have a 9 a.m. service. See below for service times and programming information for the first week of January 2017.

Sunday, Jan. 1: 11 a.m.

Children's programming is available for children aged 2 and under.

Wednesday, Jan. 4: 6:45 p.m.

Programming is available for newborns through high school students. A meal will be served 5 - 6:30 p.m. in the Atrium. Visit CompassionChristian.com for the menu and pricing information.

2016 Contributions

The last date to make 2016 contributions in the building will be in services on Wednesday, Dec. 28. Online and kiosk gifts can be made until midnight on Saturday, Dec. 31. All gifts received on Sunday, Jan. 1, will be counted as 2017 gifts.

Growing in the Son Enrollment for 2017 - 2018

Growing in the Son is a weekday academy at our Henderson Campus that provides a Christian learning environment for children aged 2 through kindergarten. Enrollment for the 2017 - 2018 school year begins Tuesday, Jan. 9, for current students and their siblings, and Wednesday, Feb. 1, for new students. Registration packets are available from the GIS office or at CompassionChristian.com. A limited number of scholarships are available. Contact the GIS office at 912-629-7494 or 912-629-4734 for more information.

2016 Year-To-Date Giving and Attendance

View information through November at CompassionChristian.com/give.