

What I Want For Christmas
“The Gift of Peace”
- selected verses -
December 18, 2016 / Pastor Shawn

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given. The government will be on his shoulders. And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6
(see also: Numbers 6:24-26; Isaiah 2:2-4;
Luke 2:14; John 14:27; Galatians 5:22;
Matthew 5:9)

Sar (sar): prince; leader; chief; general

Shalom (shä-lōm’): peace; relational peace; inner peace; deep-rooted; sense of calm and completeness

5 PEACE BUSTERS

1. UNEXPECTED BAD NEWS
2. RELATIONAL BREAKDOWNS
3. FINANCIAL PRESSURE
4. MORAL FAILURE
5. MORTALITY

5 KEYS TO EXPERIENCING GOD’S PEACE

1. Invite Jesus to be your Prince of peace.

For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility. Ephesians 2:14
(see also: Romans 5:1; Colossians 3:15; 1 Peter 3:10-11)

2. Call a Time-Out.

¹⁰ We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ 2 Corinthians 10:5

3. Focus your mind on truth.

Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Romans 12:2

4. Depend upon God in prayer as you move into your future.

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

5. Take the next practical step, immediately.

Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you. Philippians 4:9

Discussion Questions

(These are suggested questions to help you go “deeper” with Sunday’s message. Please don’t feel you have to use all the questions. Pick those which will connect with your Group, fit within the time allotted, and help you apply what you have studied.)

1. What was your “A-Ha” from Sunday’s message? Why did this stand out to you?
2. What special tradition did your family observe at Christmas? Who was the person in your family who made Christmas special?
3. What Peace-Buster have you experienced (or are you experiencing) at Christmas? Where in your life do you need the Prince of Peace to reign and rule?
4. What are the 5 Keys to Peace Pastor Shawn outlined? Which one(s) do you need to work on the most? How might Jesus, as your Prince of Peace, help restore Peace in your life?
5. What do you sense God asking you to do in response to Sunday’s message?