

SOP: Power of Peace

Definition: The absence of conflict and the presence of undisturbed well-being. It is the fruit of abiding in Him and allowing Him to bring every aspect of His Life into fruition in ours. (Yet we are still living in this world)

Shalom/Hebrew: health, security, tranquility, welfare, good condition, comfort; a satisfied condition, an unconcerned state of peacefulness; a prosperous relationship between two parties or more. It expresses completeness, harmony and fulfillment. (It is like a restoration to Eden internally)

Eirene/Greek: the absence or end of strife; a state of untroubled and undisturbed well-being; the granting of deliverance and freedom from all the distresses that are experienced as a result from sin; to make complete or restore (not only what we have been set free FROM—but what we are set free FOR. It is the fulness of: Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.)

John 14:27 (Jesus makes a deposit)

- **Peace is a quality of life that Jesus demonstrated—as an accurate reflection of the Father:**

He is the Perfect Image Bearer of the Father—He is giving away the quality of relationship that He experienced with His Father. (Not just a behavior, but a demonstration of relationship and operating in oneness)

Walking on the water (John 6:19, Mark 6:48, Matthew 14:22-33)—In the midst of a storm—He does not succumb to circumstances (He is outside the boat—facing contrary winds—disciples display fear—He models peace)
(Peter ‘sees’ the wind—and falters)

Sleep in midst of the storm (Luke 8:22-25)—models abiding in the eye of a hurricane—contrary winds (He lived in authority over His circumstances—not in fear—under the circumstances)

Deeply grieved in Garden of Gethsemane-yet submitting (Matthew 26:37-39)—He is not moved out of God’s will in the midst of suffering—He knows and is known by the Father and walking with the Comforter. (Because He is walking in the Spirit—He is walking in peace)

It is abundant, available, and differs from any negotiated peace that the world offers—it is from the Spirit and is not through the soul (mind, will and emotions)—Psalm 131:1-2

Presence brings peace (Romans 15:13)

Forgiveness offered in face of rejection (Luke 23:34: Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing)

Blessed are the Peacemakers for they shall be called the sons/daughters of God

Difference between peacemaking and peacekeeping:

Ask yourself: Are you living a reconciled life?

- Ask the Holy Spirit to bring to your mind anywhere there is a broken relationship
- Do you recognize or experience a negative emotion from a memory of—or when you have actual contact with that person?
- Have you treated reconciliation as a duty—but are too wounded to complete the process of making peace?

Forgiveness is the Father's most potent instrument for Kingdom penetration. The power released in forgiveness/reconciliation is similar to a fusion bomb. (In a bomb— fission—dividing the atom can be controlled. It has less power than fusion. With fusion, there is a greater release of power—but it is not easily controlled)

- **It is a gift given to us—can't be earned—must be received and stewarded**

Learn how to pay attention to the state of your heart—guard your peace.

Ministry of Reconciliation (II Corinthians 5:18-21—God reconciles the world to Himself=peace—not counting their trespasses against them=peace)

Seated with Him in heavenly places: Ephesians 2:6—above the 'fray' (Get an overview —see where movement can be made—don't become entangled in futile arguments)

Titus 3:9-11
II Timothy 2:23

- **There is a growing anxiety and loss of peace in the world**
 - Watch over your heart with all diligence (Proverbs 4:23)—our soul is insufficient when it comes to accessing His peace
 - Anxious thoughts multiply (Psalm 94:19: When my anxious thoughts multiply within me, Thy consolations delight my soul)—Must bring our thinking under His rule
 - Command: Do not fear/over 365 times—if it is a command, we are not helpless
- **Be anxious for nothing—but prayerful (Philippians 4:6-9)**
Prayer/supplication/thanksgiving/request

His peace surpasses(transcends, exceeds) all comprehension
Choose what your mind dwells on (Phil 4:8)

Studies suggest that it takes 18-254 days to form a new habit (avg 66)
Tips to form a habit: Repetition
Look for the reward
Keep it simple and under what you can control
Begin

Practice what you learn (Phil 4:9)

- **Romans 5:1-5, 10-11**