

Christians Seeking Identity

December 2017



Greeting Family & Friends,

We are seemingly in a time that “Peace on Earth and Good Will toward Men” is more a greeting on a Christmas card than a real life actuality. When we look around, this theme of unrest, turmoil and disagreement is not just within our homeland borders but more like a world view. In this month’s teaching we want to address this issue to see what our part is as sons and daughters of our Most High God.

What happened to the peace that Jesus supposedly brought to this earth.

Luk 2:14 *Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.*

Right now our country is a divided country. People hate people! We have political divisions, racial divisions, division in our homes, in our marriages and even in our churches. There is a reason for this. We have an enemy who is stirring up the pot.

Rev 6:4 *And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword.*

The trouble is, all of the hype and publicity about everything negative going on, has not only affected the world, it has negatively affected the way that we as Christians often deal with people.

1Ti 4:1 *Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils, 2 Speaking lies in hypocrisy;*

It seems like we are tempted to respond to things in one of two ways. Either we are tempted to hide and take care of our own hoping it will all go away, or we try to go back to the old law system of treating people like we think they deserve to be treated with an eye for an eye approach. This is exactly what the enemy is hoping for! You see, Christians are supposed to be the peace makers. We have the salt and light that the world is looking for.

Mat 5:9 *Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. Mat 5:16* *Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven*

We have to realize that people do what they do and react how they react to what is going on because they don't have a revelation of anything else. The world is desperately looking for the love of God and we are the ones that God has chosen to demonstrate his love for people through. We are here to make peace! We have the potential to change the atmosphere and that all happens as we individually build relationships with the people that we find within our sphere of influence. We need to follow Jesus' example. He did not just love those that loved him. He was the God connector that led unlovable people to the love of God.

Luke 6:35 *But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil. 36 Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful.*

We can do this by being the first one to act loving or reach out. Smile at strangers, look into their eyes, and say hello. Seek first to understand; Be a good listener. Look beyond behavior. Choose being kind over being right. Every day, tell at least one person something you like, admire, or appreciate about them. Resist the urge to criticize. Search for the grain of truth in opinions that differ from yours. Surrender to the fact that life isn't fair. Practice random acts of kindness. See the innocence. Practice humility.

It is amazing how far just showing a little bit of kindness and having mercy on people will go when it comes to tearing down walls that they have built around themselves. Going the extra mile and walking in their shoes, taking the time to understand where they are coming from, is what disarms people, and this is what we have been called to do. We are peacemakers and relationship builders.

As we have discovered the enemy is out to kill, steal and destroy using any means he can. We need to remember that Jesus has already fully equipped us with the ability to restore peace to this earth by giving us the Holy Spirit who will tell us what to do and when to do it. You may be thinking, "But who am I and what can I do that can possibly affect a nation or even the world? My little bit is not going to amount to anything". That is EXACTLY what the enemy wants you to think. "A little leaven, leavens the WHOLE lump."(1Cor.5:6) Let me just say, a little of God's love flowing through each one of you causes great things to happen in the hearts and lives of a WHOLE lot of people.

Suzan and I want to say that God has truly blessed us by brining you into our lives. We thank God for you each and every day as our ministry would be the same without you. Thank you for your faithful prayers and support. We love and appreciate each one of you.

From our family to yours we want to wish you a
Very Merry Christmas
and

A Blessed & Joyous New Year!
Your friends, Mickey & Suzan



