**God's Character Goals for Our Lives**

**A Reconciling Spirit**

 ***Matthew* 5:9**

**Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God,**

**Intro:**

**1. Types of peace.**

**a. ILL: Larry & the Marines. They are peacemakers politically.**

**b. Hypnotherapy (Pam Boyer & Priscilla Lindsay): relaxation to the body, feeling of tranquility, reduction of pain without drugs, the bringing of peace to physical bodies.**

**2. But we are looking at a different kind of peacemaking!**

**I. What Does it Mean to be a Peacemaker?**

**A. Meaning of the word.**

**1. Peace (εἰρηνοποιός) = the absence of trouble, harmonious relationships.**

**2. Peace שָׁלוֹם) ) = to be safe from physical harm, to be prosperous financially, to be complete**

**a. It's the well being of the total person. - everything that makes for that person's highest good.**

**b. So it's more than freedom from trouble, it's the enjoyment of all that is good.**

**B. What are peacemakers?**

**1. Those who are used to bring about a diplomatic solution to warring countries or regions. (The Marines!)**

**a. The US philosophy behind our military rules of engagement: never for conquest but to bring a climate of peace to the area of operation for the purpose of bringing about a diplomatic solution to a political problem.**

**b. From a Canadian journalist: "The reason America is great is because America is good. If the time ever comes when America ceases to be good, she will cease to be great!"**

**2. Those who establish good relationships between others.**

**a. There seem to always be those who will stir up trouble & tension.**

**b. But there are others who seem to be able to unite brothers & sisters harmoniously.**

**c. Rom 14:19 - Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification.**

**d. I Thess 5:13 - Live in peace with each other.**

**e. Eph 4:3 - Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.**

**f. An example of making peace in the church. Phil 4:2 - I plead with Euodia and I plead with Syntyche to agree with each other in the Lord.**

**3. Those who strive to make the world a better place to live in.**

**a. Abraham Lincoln: "Die when I may, I would like it to be said of me that I always pulled up a weed & planted a flower where I thought a flower should grow".**

**b. ILL: Hudson Taylor & the China Inland Mission.**

**c. ILL: Mother Theresa & the Streets of Calcutta, India.**

**d. Billy Graham & Bill Bright bringing 1000s of people worldwide to the Lord!**

**4. Those who have made peace with God.**

**a. We all struggle to live a consistent Christian life with temptations all around us.**

**b. You become a peacemaker when you introduce others to the Lord Jesus! Each of you are capable of witnessing & leading someone to the Lord.**

**II. What Does it Mean to be Called the Sons of God?**

**A. What does the phrase "son of" mean?**

**1. In Hebrew & Aramaic, our Lord's spoken languages, it meant identification with your father & family.**

**a. "Ben" or "Bar" meant "son of".**

**b. In the movie "Ben Hur", Charleston Heston played Judah ben Hur, "Judah, Son of Hur".**

**2. But it was also used in place of an adjective when used with an abstract noun.**

**a. A man could be called "a son of peace" instead of "a peaceful man".**

**b. Example: Act 4:36.37 - Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means Son of Encouragement), sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet.**

**B. God is known as a peacemaker!**

**1. I Cor 14:33 - For God is not a God of disorder but of peace.**

**2. Rom 15:33 - The God of peace be with you all.**

**3. II Cor 13:11 - Finally, brothers, good-by. Aim for perfection, listen to my appeal, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you.**

**4. I Thess 5:23 - May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through.**

**5. Heb 13:20 - May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep .. .**

**C. So - "Sons of God" means that peacemakers are:**

**1. Doing the work of God or a god-like work.**

**2. They are so identified with spiritual ministry that they are completely identified with God.**

When you become a peacemaker, you become completely identified with God! Isn't that what you want?

[**https://www.biblelifemessages.org**](https://www.biblelifemessages.org/)