

Week 3: Sowing Peace... God's Bomb Squad!

The Seeds of Peace...Compassion, Righteousness, Hope

- Compassion...Reflects the *heart* of the King. We are all members of a King's family and the king has a kingdom. He also has a heart. He feels deeply for those who dwell in His kingdom. He has a Shepherd's heart when it comes to His people. One of the greatest benefits to Jesus coming to earth was that we got to see a visible demonstration of the King's heart.
 - When he saw the crowds, **he had compassion** on them because they were confused and helpless, like sheep without a **shepherd**. (Matt 9:36 NLT-SE)
 - The Great Peacemaker: ⁸ But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. ⁹ And since we have been made right in God's sight by the blood of Christ, he will certainly save us from God's condemnation. ¹⁰ For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son. ¹¹ So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God. (Rom 5:8–11 NLT-SE)
- **Righteousness**...Reflects the *will* of the King. The will of the King, simply put, is that the people who share His kingdom also share His desire for good. The word that best describes the manifestation of the King's will is righteousness.
 - I said, 'Plant the good seeds of righteousness, and you will harvest a crop of love. Plow up the hard ground
 of your hearts, for now is the time to seek the Lord, that he may come and shower righteousness upon you.' (Hos
 10:12 NLT-SE)
 - 17 The wisdom from above is first of all <u>pure</u>. It is also <u>peace loving</u>, <u>gentle</u> at all times, and <u>willing</u> to yield to others. It is full of <u>mercy</u> and <u>good deeds</u>. It shows no favoritism and is always sincere. ¹⁸ And **THOSE WHO ARE PEACEMAKERS WILL PLANT SEEDS OF PEACE AND REAP A HARVEST OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.** (James 3:17–18 NLT-SE)
 - Many people have the wrong idea about righteousness. They assume that being righteous means doing right thing, saying the right thing, wearing the right clothes, or having the right answer to the question. That's not righteousness. Righteousness has more to do with a condition of your life as opposed to religious actions. Right actions are important, but they should grow out of a person's condition of being righteous, not the other way.

- around. Righteousness (*right standing*) has everything to do with position. Your position with God, his government and your inheritance.
- Hope...Reflects the *plans* of the King. Everything the King says or does is purposeful, nothing wasted, nothing frivolous. The future is no surprise to the King and His action reflect not only His desire for good, but also His confidence that all things in His kingdom will work together for that good. We plant seeds of hope in proportion to our confidence in the King's plans!
 - ²³ Love the Lord, all you godly ones! For **the Lord protects those who are loyal to him**, but he harshly punishes the arrogant. ²⁴ So be **strong** and **courageous**, all you who put your hope in the Lord! (Psa 31:23–24 NLT-SE)
 - ⁻ ¹¹ For **I know the plans I have for you**," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. ¹² In those days when you pray, I will listen. ¹³ If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me. ¹⁴ I will be found by you," says the Lord. (Jer 29:11–14 NLT-SE)

Walking Towards Conflict and Danger, Not Away... Motivated by Love, Sustained by Faith

- Motivated by love...God's love for us and our love for each other. Why take a risk? Why not just sit back, relax and let the King work all this out for us? Because something is stirring inside us. Something inside us is not satisfied with being a audience, but there's a deep desire that the King's will is done and that we will be participants in that effort. Love has set up camp in our hearts and it will not let us ignore the situation. Love says "Yes!" To God. We are moved by God and moved by His love to sow seed wherever we can.
 - ³⁶ "Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?" ³⁷ Jesus replied, "'You must **love the Lord your** God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ A second is equally important: '**Love your neighbor** as yourself.' ⁴⁰ The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments." (Matt 22:36–40 NLT-SE)
- Sustained by faith...Nothing is impossible for God. Graham Cooke talks about "problems, promises, and provision." No matter how big the problem appears to be, the promise has to be bigger! That being true, can you imagine how big the provision will be? He says, "Every problem comes with a promise and provision...it's the kingdom!"
 - "What is impossible for people is **possible** with God." (Luke 18:27 NLT-SE)
 - "What do you mean, 'If I can'?" Jesus asked. "**Anything is possible** if a person believes." He looked at them intently and said, "Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But not with God. **Everything is possible** with God." (Mark 9:23, 10:27 NLT-SE)

Changing the Environment...Shining Light, Breathing Life, Speaking Truth

- Shining light...Through the Word of God. There are some very kind, gentle, caring people in the world who accomplish great things. Does that mean they are shining lights in a dark world? To some extent, because the heart of the King is being demonstrated in their action and they are not even aware. On the other hand, when a Christ-follower walks into the room does the room brighten up? It does if they are reflecting the light of the King!
 - Lord (only used in relation to Kingdoms) = Adoni = Owner (everything you want to do you need permission)
 - What is the **Bible** about: Covenant, Constitution, Testament

- It's about a **King** (not a President or a Prime Minister)
- It's about a Royal Family (The Bible is not about the subjects of a King, but the children of a King).
- It's about a **Kingdom** (a country)
- It's about a government (The government of a Kingdom ruled by a King).
- It's about **colonization** (The expansion of a kingdom to a distant territory to extend the kingdom of heaven to earth to make earth a colony of heaven).
- The **colony** declared it's independence from Heaven (The Bible is about the re-colonization of Earth from Heaven).
- The Bible is **NOT about a religion**
 - He wanted to extend the Kingdom of Heaven to earth. To colonize Earth with Heaven.
 - He wanted to fill the Earth with the Glory (kabod ~ weight, imprint, impact, true essence, culture) of God.
 - · All Kingdoms manifest themselves as culture.
 - The Glory is not in the country, but in the people.
 - "The earth shall be filled with the Glory of God," means the Earth shall be filled with the <u>weight of the culture</u> of Heaven!
- The Bible is the constitution of the government of the Kingdom of Heaven (the book of the Law, it is a legal document).
- Breathing life...through the Spirit of God. God is creative. Since we are born again into His family, we are creative as well. This is true because He has placed His Spirit in us as evidence of who He is and what He wants. The Spirit of God is power and that power is in us for a reason...to breath life into hopeless situations and establish God's will here on earth.
 - God created with His **hands** and gave life through His **breath**.
 - Then the Lord God **formed** the man from the dust of the ground. He **breathed** the breath of life into the man's nostrils, and the man became a living person. (Gen 2:7 NLT-SE)
 - We would be wise to begin, more and more, to breathe into an environment we want to see changed,
 anticipating that change will come and the environment will align itself to the kingdom. (John 20:19–23 NLT-SE)
- Speaking truth...through prophetic revelation and expression. God also has a voice and He has something to say. The evidence is in the Holy Scriptures, the Bible. Did God stop talking when the Bible was completed?
 - **Sowing truth**, especially truth that is alive, living, breathing truth, will **change the spiritual atmosphere** in a room, home, city, or nation. When we sow truth, we are sowing peace that reestablishes God's righteousness (right standing).

A Harvest of Courage...Peace flowing through You

⁷ Don't be misled—you cannot mock the justice of God. **You will always harvest what you plant.** ⁸ Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit. ⁹ So let's not get tired of doing what is good. **At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up.** ¹⁰ Therefore, whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone—especially to those in the family of faith. (Gal 6:7–10 NLT-SE)

• The basis for courage is trusting in God. Everything in the kingdom of God is accomplished by putting our trust in the King, His desires, and His ability to accomplish those desires. The King loves. As we grow in our trust in His love,

we will see courage to love even more begin to manifest in our own lives. Courage, not to do what we want with His blessing attached, but **courage to believe what He says is true.**

- ¹⁵ All who confess that Jesus is the Son of God have God living in them, and they live in God. ¹⁶ We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in his love. God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them. (1 John 4:15–16 NLT-SE)
- I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace **because you trust in him.** Then you will **overflow with confident hope** through the power of the Holy Spirit. (Rom 15:13 NLT-SE)
- The power of courage is speaking for God. In many ways, the church has lost her voice and desperately needs to
 reclaim it. The voice of the culture, the voice of the world, continues to get louder and louder. The key for the
 church is not that their voice gets louder in response, but that they begin to speak the language of
 Heaven...the Language of the King!
 - We need to learn the "**language of Heaven.**" We're not talking about a dialect. Jesus is interceding for us right now (Heb 7:25). What is he saying? The Spirit that dwells within us intercedes with for us as well. What is He saying? (Rom 8:26–27 ESV)
 - We're not asking what language they are speaking, but asking the very important question, "What is Heaven saying about what is unfolding upon the earth?" This is one of the reasons we pursue prophetic revelation (1 Cor 14:1, 22)
- The outflow of courage is living for God. You don't become a peacemaker by praying, hoping, declaring, or working
 at it. You become a true peacemaker by being "in Christ," then living out of that relationship, engaging with the world
 around you.

The true "harvest" is manifest when those who believe in God live their lives in a way that demonstrates the will of the One they believe in.

- ¹ And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. ² Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but **let God transform you** into a new person by changing the way you think. **Then you will learn to know God's will for you**, which is good and pleasing and perfect. (Rom 12:1–2 NLT-SE)

HOME BLESSINGS

Bringing peace into a chaotic environment changes the atmosphere!

Changing the spiritual atmosphere in a city, one house at a time: "Home Blessings."

- People **prepare** their home to host a team of 20-30 people for 90 min.
- Pray throughout the house for an hour (In the Spirit, prophesying, declaring, writing, dancing, etc.)
- Debrief and write down prophetic revelations, words, and insights for 30 minutes.
- Each person participating brings \$5 as a gift to the home.