



WEEK 4

LOVE • JOY • HOPE • PEACE

WEEK 4

PEACE // WEEK OF DECEMBER 19TH

THIS WEEK AS WE LEAD UP TO CHRISTMAS, THERE IS A READING FOR EACH DAY

Sunday: Read Isaiah 9:1-7, Matthew 4:12-17, John 14:27, Philippians 4:7-8, Colossians 3:15

What stands out to you from these passages?

How do you think we can find peace in waiting?

In Isaiah, the prophet describes how the people rejoice as if they were only dividing the spoils of war. It is like the triumph of a conquest, but instead, the trampling boots and bloodied garments of conquest are burned in the fire. This is all the celebration of a great victory, not against other people or other nations, but over violence and death itself. Peace, justice, prosperity, and righteousness follow in the wake of all conflict's end.

Jesus's kingdom is not a wave of military triumph; instead, His kingdom is the inauguration of peace... Instead of drums and heralds, Luke shows how Jesus's ministry started as a quiet moment in His home synagogue (Luke 4:14). It is a mic-drop moment long before there were microphones. Jesus reads those words from Isaiah that promised His coming: "He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor" (Luke 4:18-19; Isaiah 61:1). And when He finished reading, Jesus just sat down...

That is the kingdom we're a part of now as believers...In love and goodness, we walk with the Holy Spirit, as Christ brings us into His peace, joy, and righteousness.

-Written by David Chaniott- He Reads Truth

"Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Don't let your heart be troubled or fearful" (John 14:27). Jesus promises us that peace truly is possible: in our hearts, in our homes, and even in our world. Christmas comes into our darkness, lighting up our hearts with joy and peace.

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OPTIONAL FAMILY DISCUSSION:

Isaiah 9:6 promises that Jesus will be our Prince of Peace. Jesus is our peace, and He came to give us the gift of peace. How would you define peace? Peace is the feeling of being safe and secure. We can have this peace by knowing that God is in control and he promises to care for us. Peace is an important part of Christmas. God sent Jesus to provide the way for us to receive God's love and be at peace with Him (Romans 5:1). The Bible says that it was God's love that brought Jesus into the world as a baby. Just like the angels did when Jesus was born, it is important that we worship Jesus and tell others about His birth and the peace He offers. We don't have to fear, we can choose to hold on to Jesus, our prince of peace.

What does it mean to have peace?

What can we remember is true about Jesus when we feel afraid?

SONG // Silent Night

WATCH // The BibleProject Video - PEACE - graceintheword.cc/peace

PRAYER // Thank you God for the gift of peace that you give us through your son Jesus. We are grateful that the peace of Jesus guards our hearts and minds and surpasses anything that we can understand. We do not have to fear because of the peace you leave with us. May we live in light of this peace everyday. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen

