**Peace Leads to Adoption**

So far Jesus has said that those who are blessed are the poor in spirit, those sorrowful over their sin, the humble, those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, those who are merciful and those who are pure. A person must be all these things to be the next thing: a peacemaker.

Matthew 5:9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God

The world is not a peaceful place. We live in a world of turmoil. Strife, war, and division. People are constantly fighting, constantly disagreeing, constantly attacking. Peace is not the absence of war. Peace is the way things were meant to be before war even existed.

The world is not peaceful because people are not peaceful, and people are not peaceful because peace is not in our nature. As we have said many times before, sin is in our soul. Sin is the root of all our problems in this world. A great need in our world of sin and division today is peacemakers.

But what does a peacemaker look like? We can all strive to be peacemakers, but God ultimately makes us peacemakers. We cannot become such a thing of our own ability. The more you try to be peaceful the more you may find yourself ready for war. But what is a peacemaker like? What do they act like? God’s people are called to be peacemakers and so we ought to know what that looks like

The only true peacemakers are those who have peace with God first. For there to be righteousness, goodness or anything holy and pure in this world it must come from God. In the same way, peace ultimately comes from God above. When we are brought into a saving relationship with God we begin to become like Him. When we become the children of God we become like God. Peacemakers are called children of God because God was the first peacemaker. The children will act like their father. The Bible says that Jesus is the Prince of Peace, and as we become like Jesus we begin to demonstrate peace.

Those who make peace are led by the Spirit of God to do so (Romans 8:14) When the Holy Spirit enters our life we are led to peace. The Spirit is a spirit of peace. See how all three members of the Trinity lead to peace. God the Father gives us peace, Jesus, the Prince of Peace makes peace with us by the blood of his cross (Colossians 1:20) and the Holy Spirit leads us to peace (Romans 8:14)

A peaceful person is not as concerned about themself as they are about others. As long as a person is too worried about themself they will be sensitive and defensive. A sensitive/defensive person is not a peacemaker. There is no need for defending in a time of peace. When a person is worried about how everything affects them that is that attitude that leads to fights and division. The peacemaker does not consider what might happen to them when trouble comes, but what might happen to others. The peaceful person is selfless. In the same way that those who love God in turn love others, those at peace with God will strive for peace with others. They are looking to make peace in every circumstance.

A peacemaker is pure in heart like Jesus said earlier in the Beatitudes, because a person that is not pure in heart has a heart filled with envy, jealousy, anger, rage, and division, the opposite of peaceful. A person that is pure in heart will also be careful with their words. It has to be understood: Most division and war in the world started with words. Some words are better left unspoken. The Bible speaks in James about how the tongue is an evil thing, something nearly impossible to tame. It is like a wildfire. Read James 3:5-10 A peacemaker controls their tongue

The peacemaker is concerned with God’s glory more than anything else

God made the world perfect and peaceful and when the world is not at peace God is not glorified. God is not glorified by division, dissension, war and strife. Just think about how many people use war or evil as a reason to suggest that God does not even exist or is simply an unloving God. A Christian person is to be an example of peace, in turn glorifying God through their peacemaking

The peacemakers are the children of God. A born-again believer will naturally strive to be a peacemaker in every circumstance. We are called to be people of peace that serve the Prince of Peace!