

MOVING FROM RELATIONSHIP TO FELLOWSHIP (MOVING FROM PEACE WITH GOD TO THE PEACE OF GOD)

ROMANS 5:1; PHILLIPPIANS 4:7

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Peace with God (Relationship)

Romans Ch. 5:1

*Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have **peace with God** through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Justified-to declare innocent or guiltless, it's the radical judicial act of God, by which he pardons all the sins of those who believe in Christ and accounts, accepts and treats them as righteous.

- Romans 10:9-10...if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved.

Relationship with God through Jesus Christ

- Sadly many people stop here and fail to go into fellowship with God!
 - We give the preacher our hand and the Lord our heart and stop there!
 - Relationship/Fellowship Example

The enemy wants to destroy your joy

- The enemy can't destroy your relationship (peace with God)
- The enemy will fight to destroy your fellowship (the peace of God)

Peace of God (Fellowship)

What is the peace of God? It's the inner tranquility that God gives the believer.

Philippians 4:7

*⁷**And the peace of God**, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

The peace of God is contingent on the believer having peace with God.

We can't experience the peace of God unless we're intentional in our faith development

Perpetual in our thirst for the peace of God.

- Ceaseless, constant, continuous, endless and everlasting in your journey for the peace of God.

Membership to Discipleship

Moving from Relationship to Fellowship

- Moving towards intimacy with God
 - You have to want the peace of God more than you want anything else.
 - You have to desire it
 - Study the word of God (Large Group, Small Group and Personal Devotional)
 - Pray
 - Meditate
 - Fasting (flesh under subjection)
 - Sacrifice
 - It's going to cost you
 - Money
 - Tithe, offerings
 - Study Literature, conferences...etc
 - Time
 - Late nights
 - Early mornings
 - Relationships
 - Friends
 - Family
 - **IT'S WORTH IT!!!**

Attacks of the enemy when trying to move from relationship to fellowship

- Time Constraints
- Body/Physical Issues
- Battlefield of the Mind

Draw Nigh to God and He will draw nigh to you

- He will set the agenda for your day

The peace of God helps you deal with disappointment, aggression, anxiety and opposition

- Having the peace of God surpasses all understanding
 - What's happening around you on the outside doesn't alter the peace you have within.
 - Negative doctor's report
 - Unemployment
 - Relationship abandonments
 - People lying on you
 - Dealing with death

The anchor you have in God