

- Our great problem is often that in our problems we fail to believe the gospel

1. **The Stealers of Peace**

- a) Conflict – v2-3
- b) Despondency – v4
- c) Pride – v5 ('Gentleness' = balanced, humble, meek, kind)
- d) Worry – v 6-7
- e) Sin – v8-9 (brings trouble, guilt and an accusing conscience)

2. **The Bringer of Peace**

- Solution to these problems is not many, but one – “the Lord”
- Each problem is solved by applying the gospel
 - a) **Agree in the Lord**
 - Problems with Christians. Focus on what you have in common.
 - See them as someone *your Saviour* loves enough to die for
 - b) **Rejoice in the Lord**
 - Not in our circumstances, but in God and what he has done
 - What Christ has done will far outweigh/outlast all that can/will happen
 - Weeping is not excluded, but there can be rejoicing amid the tears
 - c) **Humble near the Lord**
 - Would we demand our rights, assert ourselves, strut – in the presence of Christ and his nail pierced hands? He is present.
 - d) **Guarded by the Lord**
 - Christ died to bring you in to his Father’s family
 - Take all concerns to your Father – worry is inconsistent with such a Father
 - “*with thanksgiving*” – helps us to realise how much he cares
 - e) **Live with the Lord**
 - If Christ lived with us, what would we watch/read/listen to, or speak or think?

3. **The Cost of Peace**

- Christ went to the Cross to purchase our peace with God - Phil 2:6-8
- We need to realise that Christ has paid for our peace here too - John 14:27
- Such a price for our peace – how can we fail to live out the consequences?

4. **The Discipline of Peace**

- Paul calls us to action to get peace – agree/rejoice/pray/think/do – It takes work!
 - a) **Work at preaching the Gospel to yourself daily**
 - Press the gospel implications into every area of your life
 - b) **Work at getting to know Christ better**
 - He is the key – dwell with him, don’t just nod at him in passing



Welcome to our service this morning - today we are remembering Christ's death for sinners as we take part in the Lord's Supper.

If you are a Christian and haven't joined with us for the Lord's Supper before, or haven't yet spoken to the elders about your faith in Jesus Christ, we'd invite you to watch, and come and speak to Mark before our next communion.

If you aren't a Christian, or not sure, we'd invite you to watch as well, and if you have any questions, speak to Mark or one of the elders afterwards.

Notices

Sun	Evening service at Day Centre	8pm
Tues	Bible Study at Colin & Caroline's - 2nd half of Study sheet	8pm
Fri 18th	Fellowship food and fun night	

Camp Reunions

11th-13th Dec - Boys Adventure Camp
18th-20th Dec - Girls Discovery Camp
29th-31st January - Boys Discovery Camp & Girls Adventure Camp
5th-7th February - Senior Camp

Forms available for camps

Sunday 20th - Phillipians 4:10-23
Opening Psalm: 108:1-5

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