

NOT NORMAL



GOING DEEPER AT HOME

MARCH 6: THE END OF WAR

World War 1 was called "the war to end all wars." With the high number of deaths and wounded, it was easy to see why and yet, just over 100 years later we know that it did not bring about the end of war. Currently we are watching the events unfold in Ukraine, wondering how this could be happening and what will it take to bring about peace. Jesus has something to say about those who are part of the Kingdom of Heaven, that we are peacemakers, the founders of peace, and in so doing we are blessed because we are living out the very nature and heart of God.

SCRIPTURE:

Matthew 5:9

Ephesians 2:14 - 18

GOING DEEPER QUESTIONS:

1. It is said there are two main responses to conflict, fight or flight. When it comes to conflict do you move toward it (fight) or do you run from it (flight)?
2. What is something from the message that stood out to you, was new to you or challenged you?
3. What is the easiest way to make peace? Is it to fight or to compromise to help make peace? Why do you say this?
4. Read Matthew 5:9. How significant is it that this is the first and only time the word "peacemaker" is used in the Bible?
5. Read Matthew 5:43 - 45. What Jesus says could be understood as letting people take advantage of you, but in reality He is inviting us to take control through peaceful ways. What does this look like for us today?
6. Read Ephesians 2:14 - 18. How does what Paul writes impact the way you interact with people right now, perhaps because of the divide that has occurred through the pandemic or in another area of conflict in your life?
7. What step is the Holy Spirit asking you to take right now to help make peace?