

Fulwood Free Methodist Church



Sermon Series - Spring 2012

LIVE AT PEACE WITH ONE ANOTHER

The word peace appears over 360 times in scripture – once for every day. God is also described as the 'God of Peace'. The Hebrew word most often translated 'Peace' is 'Shalom' which means 'wellbeing' and 'completeness'. Scripture tells believers to live at peace with those around us, bringing the wellbeing, peace and reconciliation God has brought to our own hearts. This can be easier said than done. We consider some tough challenges faced by Joseph, which uncannily mirror present day issues.



HEBREWS

Seen as one of the most difficult New Testament books, Hebrews doesn't clearly identify its author or audience. Written as a response to the needs of a struggling people, sermon like in style, it gives warnings, challenges, examples and reminders of the faithfulness of God and calls the reader to endure in following the Son even when faced with persecution. It also deals with the question which constantly faces us: How can we approach God?



15th January

Morning: Peace in the family (1) - Genesis 37:1-36
Dave Ginns

Jacob, a special man in God's plans still would not have scored highly on a parenting skills course! What parents and those responsible for children can learn in creating peace and wellbeing in our spheres of influence?

Evening: The Final Word on the matter! - Hebrews 1:1-14
Andrew Gardner

God has spoken to us through His Son. For the writer the Superiority of the Son above all including angels is without question and he is worthy of our commitment, worship and endurance in the faith. How do we respond to the Son and that challenge?

22nd January

- Morning: Peace in the family (2) - Genesis 37:1-36
Ian Clarkson
In the same passage as last week we switch our attention to Joseph. How to be popular (!) in two easy lessons.
- Evening: Joint Guild Service at 3:00pm (tickets required: free)
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29th January

- Morning: Peace though morality - Genesis 39 - 40:4
Andrew Gardner
Joseph's integrity initially got him into trouble but he was clearly reconciled afterwards. Moral integrity is a key to peaceful wellbeing.
- Evening: Start Eating Solid Food: A Call to Maturity - Hebrews 5:11- 6:12
Nick Kenworthy
Spiritual maturity isn't the same as physical maturity. We can be spiritual babies feeding on the basics despite being a Christian for a number of years. We look at how this maturity is reached by going deeper into God's word and His will for us, holding firm & focusing on Him whatever life throws our way.
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5th February

- Morning: John Nuttall
Evening: John Nuttall
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12th February

- Morning: Peace at work - Genesis 39:1-5, 19-21, 40:16-23, 41:37-44
Ian Clarkson
Joseph was appreciated and valued in every task he was given – we look at the principles here that we can apply to our workplace.
- Evening: In with the New - Hebrews 8 – 9
Andrew Gardner
God makes covenants; he forms agreements, promises and relationships with people. The Old Covenant was often broken and in the Old Testament we find that a New Covenant will be established. With his sacrificial death Jesus establishes, guarantees and mediates that New Covenant and we are called to this new relationship with God through Christ.

19th February

- Morning: Peace in recession! - Genesis 41:33-36, 47-49, 53-57
Andrew Gardner
Famine=Recession! How Joseph suggested this was handled nationally, and the lessons for our own financial management .
- Evening: A Marathon not a Sprint? A Call to Endurance - Hebrews 12:1-15
Ian Clarkson
Life can be hard and in the times of Hebrews the readers were experiencing hardship and opposition to their faith. To be effective in ministry takes discipline, obedience and endurance, all tough as they are for a runner but which all serve to make sure that we all finish.

26th February

- Morning: Peace through release - Genesis 45:1-15
Dave Sewell
Chapters 43-45 tell of Joseph's journey to forgiving his brothers, and the well of bitterness that was released that day. Learning to forgive and seeing God's hand at work in the day to day events of our life is foundational to our own peace and wellbeing.
- Evening: Love Actually in Community - Hebrews 13:1-19
Andrew Gardner
Community life isn't always easy. How we respond and relate to each other shows how we actually love each other not just as an emotion but in acts and commitment that meet each other's needs and "Keep on loving each other as brothers and sisters" in a world that is increasingly confused about the nature of love.

Future Dates

- 18th March: Mothers Sunday
8th April: Easter Sunday