



*Brotherhood
In
Jesus Christ*

*How to live a
peaceful life in our
modern society*

57

How to live a peaceful life in our modern society

If there is anything that would describe the society in our modern world it would be fast paced and irritatingly hectic. It causes people to get frustrated, short tempered. Our computer systems are getting faster and all the information processed is expected by the employees to be process it in the same fast paced manner. This leaves people feeling left behind so they get frustrated, irritable and short tempered in their responses.

For that reason we read Apostle Paul's advice in 1 Thes: 4:11 to study God's word, be quiet, do our own business and work with our own hands, as we are commanded to do. We are to lead a quiet life, but that is nearly impossible in our fast paced computer culture. How can one live a quiet life when our computer technology accelerates, changes and increases in complexity? When television and smart phones bring all the information into our homes and broadcast even our private lives into the world. The global economy causes every body's business to become our business? This is a considerable challenge in our world, but we as believers can take decisive steps that can benefit us personally and spiritually.

Paul gives us an important first step when he said "to work with our own hands". The focus is here not on our hands, but for our own support. For we know how to follow scriptural teaching: and not behave ourselves in a disorderly fashion. Neither should we eat any man's bread for naught; but earn such with labour and travail night and day, that we might not be chargeable to any one, but set with our actions the example for others to follow. For even when we were with you we told you that if any would not work, neither should he eat. We heard that some walk disorderly among you and are busybodies that do not work. Now them that are such we

The Brotherhood in Jesus Christ Bible Study Course is an
extension program of the Church of God 7th Day
Author: Siegfried Maywald
For further information contact:

Church of God 7th Day - 2515 Center St. N. Calgary, Ab.
Contact pastor Orville Rose Phone: 1-403-650-9965
Or Email: olhrose@gmail.com
Web Page Address www.calgarycog7.com

has mercy on thee (Is: 54:10).

We looked for peace, but no good came; and for a time of health, and behold trouble! (Jer: 8:15:)

command and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ, that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread. But brethren become not weary in well doing (2 Thes 3:8-13).

How is it possible to lead a quiet and peaceable life? In regards to quiet living Paul is not referring here to noise and sound as such, but to needless distraction. The truth is that people would possibly bring more peace and quiet into their homes if they would cut their TV viewing time in half. That alone would give the family more quiet time for personal reflection, meditation and prayer. Yet Paul's thrust of the message is not to reduce the noise level around them, but if possible to live peaceable with others, without disturbing or creating conflict and minding our own business working for ourselves (Rom. 12:18; Heb. 12:14). Both lead towards the same goal by walking properly towards those that are outside of the faith

(1 Thes. 4:12). To do so we have to avoid conflicts, stop complaining and refuse to take offence when others hurt us. We forbear and forgive one another, just like Christ forgave us our trespasses (Col: 3:13). By not getting entangled with the affairs of others or sign an agreement for a friend (Prv: 6:1). By humbly accepting the circumstances God surrounded us with, because we as Christians know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose (Rom:8:28). For we have learned to be content with whatsoever state we find ourselves. For we know how to abound in all things to be full, to be hungry and to suffer need ((Phil: 4:11-12).

No matter who we are or what we do, we all have to face struggles in our lives. There are financial matters job related circumstances, time delays, injuries, health problems, emotional, personality conflicts and even death that lead to stressful situations in our lives. Job says that man is born unto

trouble, as the sparks fly upward (Job: 5:7). If this happens to us we bring our problems to God. Only He can perform miracles and help us to overcome our difficulties and create peace in our hearts. Jesus even invites us to come to Him with all our troubles and take His yoke upon us and learn of Him and He will give us rest unto our souls (Mat. 11:28-30). But turning to God is our personal responsibility and choice we have to make to resolve our problems.

When people face problems they tend to blame others, themselves or even God for allowing those things to happen. But we have to remember that people in general are not our actual enemies. Scripture urges us to consider another more sinister source for these troubles, which is the influence of Satan and our own sins and not listening to God's advice as given to us in the scriptures. If we want to be able to stand up against these powerful forces we must fight them on their own spiritual turf with in what God's word advises.

The truth is that man is unable to escape all these problems, but is able to control and minimize them to a certain extent when turning to God for help and guidance. Apostle Paul admonishes us to remember that our enemy is of spiritual nature which we must resist and try to overcome. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against rulers of darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. So Paul instructs us to equip ourselves with the whole armour of God to be able to withstand those evil influences. He tells us that we have to gird ourselves with the breastplate of righteousness, learn of the gospel of peace, study God's word, take up the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is found in the word of God wherewith we shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. He tells us that we ought to continue to pray always and watch with all perseverance and supplication for all saints (Eph: 6:12-18). To over-

The meeting places for many churches have become cafeterias and entertainment to soothe the brethren rather than the teaching and instructing them to abide in God's word. Very few ministers warn the people of the impending troubles that are coming their way. The ministers supposed to be the watchmen and warn the people and have them return to obedience of God's way and leave the attitudes of the world behind. But if the watchmen do not warn the people so that they return to God and obey His directives they instead are drifting further and further away from God's word and actually destroy the country with their immoral behaviour, with riots, looting, fights, murder, property destruction and war.

God's word tells us that blessed are all that

1. mourn: for they shall be comforted.
2. are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.
3. do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.
are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.
4. are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.
5. are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.
6. are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
7. are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
8. are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. (Mt: 5:3-11).

For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, said the Lord that

We are finding peace by inviting God to help us in our struggles. Jesus even invites us with: “Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light (Mt: 11:28-30). Inner peace is a gift of God.”

Hatred is the most expensive attribute a man can have. It creates and ends with wars. When you disagree with a government or the news media with their politically correct ideas and agenda they will crash you and make sure you are silenced and unable to promote your point of view. Peace is attained through reconciliation with God. Any difficult problems you encounter present them to God and ask Him to help you overcome them. Do not do the wrong thing and start blaming others that it was the fault of the father, the mother or your wife that caused this problem, but stand up for yourself and speak the truth. Do not manipulate others to get your point of view accepted! For God is showing mercy unto thousands of them that love Him and keep His commandments (Ex: 20:6).

Jesus said: Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you: not as the world gives, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it become afraid (Jn: 14:27), because we are being justified by faith through Him. We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand and rejoice in hope of the glory of God (Rom: 5:1-2).

Therefore let us trust in the word of God like Joshua did when he walked around Jericho with his soldiers and the wall fell down after they encircled the city seven times.

come these demonic influences we must depend and surround ourselves with God’s armour, to help and guide us with His Holy Spirit. Although we are assured of victory we must remain sober and vigilant and continue this battle until Jesus Christ returns, because our adversary Satan the devil and his demons are continually attacking all Christian believers. We must continually resist in faith by humbling ourselves under the mighty hand of God. In prayer we can communicate with God and ask Him to give us the strength to overcome all these evil attacks and He will help us, knowing that the same afflictions affect all our brethren throughout the world (1 Pt: 5:6-9).

The difficulty we encounter in our modern and fast paced world is that many people do not believe that there actually exists a creator God who sustains and maintains the universe. God’s commandments have been pushed aside as irrelevant and declared politically incorrect for our modern society. In addition our secular thinking society dismisses all talk that there exists a supernatural spiritual realm of evil influence in our world. But at the same time stimulates and fascinates people’s curiosity in evil occult and witchcraft activities which makes it very hard to convince people of a designer and creator God that is omnipresent and all powerful in the control and maintenance of our Planet earth.

We can be assured that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose. For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. And all He did predestinate, them He also called: and whom He called, them He also justified: and whom He justified, them He also glorified. What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? Who shall lay any thing to the charge of

God's elect? It is God that justifies. Who is he that condemns? It is Christ that died, and rose again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us (Rom: 8:28-34). For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord (Rom: 8:38:-39).

If the Spirit of Him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwells in us, He that raised up Christ from the dead himself, to the good pleasure of hrymade known unto us shall also quicken our mortal bodies by His Spirit (Rom: 8:11). For the Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God. And if children, then we become heirs; heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with Him, that we may be also glorified together (Rom: 8:16-17). Because we as God's creatures shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God (Rom: 8:21). For we who have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ and became all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus (Gal: 3:26-27). God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has given us in this manner a lively hope to an incorruptible and undefiled inheritance that does not fade away, but is reserved for us in heaven through Jesus Christ's resurrection from the dead (1Pt:1:3-4).

This is the mystery wherein God hath chosen us in Him. Now it has been made known unto us among the Gentiles; which is *Christ in us*, the hope of glory. For God predestinated us before the foundation of the world unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself (Col: 1:27; Eph: 1:4-5, 9).

As the elect of God let us put on and retain therefore, bowels of mercy, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering and keep forbearing and forgiving one another.

people who trust in God and pray before surgery begins recover much faster. They are happy and seem to intuitively know that their happiness is the sum of their life choices of companion ships and trust in God.

People who are the happiest do five things:

1. They devote their time to family, friends and the study of God's word,
2. They appreciate and are happy with what they have,
3. They maintain an optimistic outlook in life and live in the moment.
4. They feel a sense of purpose in their lives.
5. They recognize that the companionship of people, creativity and laughter makes us happy, not a collection of any material junk. For we came with nothing into the world and likewise can't take anything with us when we pass away.

How do we acquire peace?

Millionaires are in many instances troublesome people. When they come home they think to themselves: I am going to say this and this to my wife and family, but peace is not the absence of strife and tensions by themselves. As long as you are alive you will have challenges to overcome. Christianity infirmity, resisting evil is victory over challenges. Peace is won by encompassing God in the battle. Jesus said: I have not come to bring peace. Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, his daughter, against her mother and the daughter in law against her mother in law. So a man's foes shall be they of his own household (Mt: 10:34-36).

9. We must maintain a sense of purpose in our life. He gave us those gifts to use to propagate His word. We are God's workmanship and His Spiritual presence in our lives gives us peace of mind.
10. We are not lost, but have a feeling and sense of belonging. God's word tells us that we are the salt of the earth: but if the salt has lost its savour, wherewith shall it be salted? It is henceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out and trodden under foot of men, for we are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid, therefore we are admonished to let our light so shine before men that they may see our good works, and glorify the Father which is in heaven (Mt: 5:13-14).

People in our society today have way too much stuff. According to the American Psychological Association, Americans "own twice as many cars per person, eat out twice as often and enjoy endless other electronic commodities that were not available in the 1950's. – Now we have "big-screen TVs, microwave ovens, SUVs, OHVs, computers, cell phones and other handheld wireless devices, to name a few." Yet we are less happy, have less leisure time and are much more stressed out, than we were decades ago. All these electronic devices force us now to handle and process all this large amount of additional information. And now through the enacted varying isolation restrictions during the Pandemic that we have to follow and adhere to, we begin to recognize that the happiest moments in our own lives involve the connections with friends and family, the people we love. Those are the people who affect our deeper parts of our nature, our spirit and soul. The association of Christ like oriented brethren is where true happiness is formed and resides. These people make us laugh, help us when we are down and spiritually exhausted. They engage us in deeply satisfying conversations. Even medical experts confirm this as obvious truth. Their research found that

If any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do you, but above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. Let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which we are called in one body; and always be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms, hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. Whatsoever you do in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus and give thanks to God and the Father by him (Col: 3:12-17). That in the ages to come He might show us the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness through Christ Jesus our Lord (Eph: 2:7).

How do we achieve true peace in God?

1. We must put off the old man concerning the former conversation, which is corrupt and filled with deceitful lusts; and be renewed in the spirit of our mind. We put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another (Eph: 4:22-25).
2. Our old ways of life before we believed in Christ are completely in the past, put behind us and discarded like old clothes. This is the final decision we made when we accepted the gift of Jesus Christ's salvation as our Saviour. We now live in the new committed way to follow in His foot steps. We are no more driven by desire, impulse or lust, but head in the new direction, the new way of thinking, behaviour and action that the Holy Spirit leads us to follow. Lying creates disunity, creates conflicts and destroys trust in any relationship.
3. We have to trust in God and accept Him as our personal Saviour. For when we trust in ourselves we have the

sentence of death in ourselves, but we trust God that He will deliver us from this penalty of death (2 Cor: 1:9-10). In whom we also trust, after we heard the word of truth, the gospel of our salvation: in whom also we believe and are sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, which is the power of God working within us (Eph: 1:13)

4. We must trust God's promises that He made in Matthew 11:28 and not trust in ourselves. but in God who raises the dead: He is in control of all things. If you believe it, you will find true peace.
5. We do not worry but trust that He will supply all our needs (Phil. 4:19). We make our requests known to God in prayer with supplication and thanksgiving and let the peace of God which passes all understanding keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus (Phil: 4:6-7). This peace is available to all that believe in God's word and accept His invitation in (Matthew 11:28-30) where Jesus said: "come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light. A yoke is a heavy wooden harness that was placed over the shoulders of an ox or oxen that was attached to a cart to pull a heavy load. A person may carry a heavy load of burdens of: financial responsibilities, of sin, of excessive demands of religious leaders (Mat23:4 & Acts 15:10). They may be exposed to weariness in the search for God or oppression and persecutions, because of their belief. Jesus frees all people that believe in Him and abide by His with love and healing. A relationship with God change meaningless, wearisome toil into spiritual productivity and purpose. Are you humble and open to receive the word of God or are

you wise in your own knowledge and do not seek to understand the truth in a childlike manner by realizing that only God holds the answer.

6. We understand Jesus' words when he said: "no man can come unto Me, except it were given unto him of My Father (Jn: 6:65). It is the work of the Holy Spirit that gives spiritual life. We by ourselves can not see the need for a new life. All spiritual renewal begins and ends with God. He reveals the truth to us and lives within us. Only He reveals the truth to us and then enables us to respond to it.
7. We maintain a clear conscience that is void of any offence toward God and men (Acts: 24:16). A conscience that reveals the work of the law written in our heart that bears witness in the Holy Ghost. It shields and protects us (Rom: 2:15 & 9:1). The shield is our faith, wherewith we shall be able to quench and repel all the fiery darts of the wicked. In addition to that we have the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God that protects us (Eph: 6:16-17).
8. We recognize that God accepts us as we are and understand that not all have the same gifts supplied by God. We acknowledge that there are diversities of gifts, but all are of the same Spirit wherewith the same God works all in all. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; to another faith or the gifts of healing and the working of miracles; or the ability to prophecy. To others God gives the discerning of spirits; divers' kinds of tongues and the interpretation thereof. Yet all these represent the same Spirit that God has given to every man as he will (1 Cor: 12:4; 8-11).