

Jesus wants us to have peace in our homes, but sometimes that requires some peacemakers. That’s why Jesus said in **Matthew 5:9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.**

I can’t think of a better thing to say or have said about us as a family, than they are “children of God.”

### **WE ARE NOT JUST A CHRISTIAN FAMILY. WE ARE A CHRIST-CENTERED HOME.**

A Christ centered home should experience more peace than a home that simply identifies as Christian.

A Christ centered home is going to be centered around Jesus who is the Prince of Peace. **Isaiah 9:6-7**

**Next Step: I will ask myself, “Judging by the peace in our home, or the lack of peace, how Christ centered is our home?” What do we need to do to center our home around Jesus and enjoy His peace?**

### **PEACEMAKERS NOT PEACEKEEPERS**

- **PEACEKEEPERS OFTEN \_\_\_\_\_ CONFLICT TO KEEP THE PEACE.**

I believe Jesus is talking about seeking the highest good for our families and each family member truly sensing God’s peace. A peace that is different than what the world gives. **John 14:27**

- **PEACEMAKERS \_\_\_\_\_ CONFLICT TO MAKE PEACE.**

A Christ-centered home isn’t a conflict-free family. **Romans 12:17-18, 21**

### **WHAT CAN OUR FAMILIES DO TO BE PEACEMAKERS?**

**1) SPEAK THE TRUTH IN \_\_\_\_\_.** **Ephesians 4:15 NLT**

**2) APOLOGIZE WHEN YOU ARE \_\_\_\_\_.** **James 5:16**

- Admit to specific actions and attitudes. No general “I’m sorry’s.”
- Admit that you were wrong with no excuses or justifications.

**3) \_\_\_\_\_ AND LET GO.** **Colossians 3:13**

Often you have to ACT in Forgiveness, long before you FEEL the forgiveness.

Remembering... **Forgive as the Lord had forgiven you.** How has the Lord forgiven you?

If Jesus has forgiven you, who am I not to forgive you?

Dress Your Family to be Peacemakers. How do peacemakers dress? **Colossians 3:12-14**

**Next Step: This week I commit to being a peacemaker and not just a peacekeeper.**

### **FAMILY IS WORTH THE WORK** **Romans 12:18 / Matthew 5:9**

#### **Life App Group and Family Devotional Application**

1. What’s one idea from the message that really stood out to you? Why did this idea grab your attention?
2. Are you more of a peacekeeper or a peacemaker in your family? Explain.
3. What steps might you need to take to become a stronger peacemaker in your family?
4. What things most often cause conflicts in your family? How well have you handled these conflicts?
5. Describe a time when you told the truth in love by confronting the issue and not the person. What did you learn from your experience?
6. “You never look more like God than when you forgive.” Is there someone that you need to forgive? If so, what’s your next step toward forgiveness?
7. Why do you think so many families in today’s world have accepted conflict as a regular part of life?
8. What’s one thing you will do this week to help you become a stronger peacemaker in your home?

*Answers: Avoid / Embrace / Love / Wrong / Forgive*