

## **THE BEATITUDES: Our King — His Kingdom — His Citizens**

### **8. Blessed Are the Peacemakers**

#### **Matthew 5:9**

#### **Discussion Questions**

##### **Chris**

1. What is the commonly understood definition of peace in our contemporary culture?
2. What is "Cancel-Culture?" In what ways have you been a part of it?
3. If peace is defined as "universal flourishing, wholeness, and delight—a rich state of affairs in which natural needs are satisfied and natural gifts fruitfully employed, a state of affairs that inspires joyful wonder as its Creator and Savior opens doors and welcomes the creatures in whom he delights. Shalom, in other words, is the way things ought to be" -- What is hindering you from experiencing Shalom to its fullest potential?
4. What did it cost Jesus to be the ultimate "peace-maker?" What does it mean for you to be a Peace-maker?
5. Do those around you see you as a peace-maker or as a source of division-- part of the cancel-culture?
6. What are practical ways that you can be a peace-maker in your sphere of influence (family, co-workers, neighborhood, friends, etc.)? HINT: think of the three keys to peace-making at the end of the study.
7. What is the one thing that stood out to you in today's study? Why do you think that is?

##### **Travis**

1. What has been your definition of peace-making?
2. Is peace the absence of conflict? Why or Why not?
3. Where have you sought to find peace apart from God?
4. The Hebrew word for peace is shalom. Shalom refers to all things flourishing as God designed them to be. How does this change how we see and desire peace?
5. What does it look like to be a peacemaker in your home (spouse, kids, roommates)?
6. What does it look like to be a peacemaker where you work or go to school?

7. Matthew 5:47 (NLT) *"If you are kind only to your friends, how are you different from anyone else Even pagans do that."* How is a peacemaker to be different?