



SERIES: Walking with Jesus
SPEAKER: NAT CRAWFORD
Friday, December 22, 2023
Scripture: John 14:27-29
TITLE: Unending Peace

My kids used to sleep in my shirts when I traveled. They said it brought them peace. My shirts smelled like me. It felt like me. It provided comfort while I was away. Jesus offers each one of us the gift of peace if we choose to wear it. Just what did Jesus say about this peace?

This is what Jesus said in John 14:27-29 (CSB).

“Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Don’t let your heart be troubled or fearful. You have heard me tell you, ‘I am going away and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. I have told you now before it happens so that when it does happen you may believe.

Jesus Christ had divine, perfect peace. Yes, Jesus was God and was God in the flesh. He had full humanity. He was tempted to doubt and fear, but He was God. He was fully connected to His Father. No matter the trial or temptation, Jesus stood firm.

Today, Jesus wants the same for us. He offers us that perfect peace that only God can give. Just like I tell my kids, “The shirts are there for you. As I go, remember, I love you. I’m here for you. Wrap yourself in remembering me so you will be at peace.”

According to the apostle Paul, God offers us peace that passes all human understanding. All we have to do is ask for it with thanksgiving and receive it. The question is will we or will we try to mask our fear with worldly solutions?

Today, you may be turning to alcohol, shopping on Amazon, or Target to cover your fear. You may be drowning out your worry with bingeing shows online or dabbling in pornography. But it never works. It never lasts. Theologian DA Carson wrote, “The world is powerless to give peace. There is sufficient hatred, selfishness, bitterness, malice, anxiety, and fear that every attempt at peace is rapidly swamped.”

Jesus offers us true peace. Real peace with God. All we have to do is receive it. Jesus told His disciples and us today that He told us before He left so that we would be prepared when trouble appears. I don’t know about you, but I prefer to respond rather than react.

So here's my challenge for you today. Identify where it is in your life that God's peace isn't present. Why do you think God's peace isn't capable of covering your fears? Are you afraid of being disappointed by God? Are you not seeking the right outcome from God? Our ultimate peace comes from our eternal peace with God. That is enough. The question is do we believe it.

It's my prayer we put on that perfect peace today. If we do, we will win the day.