

Peace
December 6, 2020

Read

Read Psalm 85 and James 3:13–18.

Discuss

- Describe a time when you felt a sense of peace. What contributed to this experience?
- Watch the Bible Project's video on peace: bibleproject.com/videos/shalom-peace/. Why is it important to understand that peace (*shalom*) is not merely an absence of conflict, but rather a state of completeness and wholeness? How does this affect what it means to be a "peacemaker"?
- Read Isaiah 9:6–7, 60:17–18, Psalm 85:8–11. What do these verses say about the "big picture" of peace?
- Read James 3:13–18. What stands out to you? What questions do you have about the text? What is the difference between James' two types of wisdom?
- How does selfishness lead to disharmony? Have you ever experienced this? On the flip side, what is the relationship between humility and peace? How does Jesus model wisdom from heaven?
- Read Psalm 85:8–11. What is the relationship between peace and righteousness? How does the biblical notion of *shalom* help these two concepts come together? How can we become more motivated to bring peace in a world that is torn by division?
- What does it look like for you to be a peacemaker? Do you, "as far as it depends on you," strive for peace (Romans 12:18)? How can you bring humility and peace to the interactions and situations you're in this week?

Pray

Pray for peace in our daily environments, our families, our communities, our nation, and our world. Ask God to give us His wisdom and to empower us to be peacemakers.

Next Steps

Explore the Bible Project! If you're participating in one of the gospel reading plans, check out their videos on [reading the gospel](#) and [understanding Jesus' parables](#). You can also watch their [advent videos](#) to dive deeper into the meaning of hope, peace, love, and joy.