

What it is and How to Experience More of it.

Definition:

1. Freedom from fears, agitating emotions, and moral conflicts. **2. Assurance of one's** salvation.

3. Contentment with our earthly lot of whatever sort that is.

4. The tranquil serenity of heart that comes from the all-pervading consciousness that our times are in God's hands.

Which area(s) tend to cause you the most difficulty? Fears? **Agitating emotions? Moral Conflicts?**

What are some of your 'peace robbers?' In our study this unit, we will look at (1) what we must know, (2) what we must do, and (3) what we must stop doing in order to experience more peace.

We will also look at what God's part is and what our part is in this whole process...

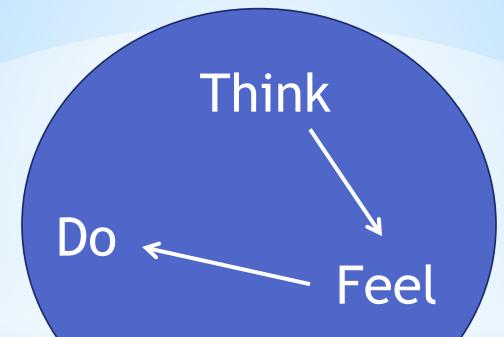
Peace is like a sliding scale... We can be up and down it, depending on many things...

Little or none

Great peace

Our goal is to learn how to progress up the scale and to gain back any lost ground...

The Think-Feel-Do Cycle



We have more than 70k thoughts a day! And they affect our feelings and actions.

Examples: If I think: I cannot handle this situation...

I will probably feel worried, afraid, discouraged, etc.

I will then act, do, or say something as a result...

Another example:

If I think: God is in control of this situation.

I will feel hope, courage, peace, etc.

I will then act, do, or say something as a result...

One of the first things that we should know are the differences between:

(1) Peace with God(2) The Peace of God(3) The God of Peace

Peace with God:

Col. 1:19-20 Isa. 53: 5-6 Rom. 5:1

The Peace of God Phil. 4:4-7

Note our responsibility in this.

The God of Peace Phil. 4:8-9 Rom. 16:17-20 2 Cor. 13:11

Throughout the next several weeks, we will examine each of these areas more closely.

What we need to learn from today's lesson:

1. Only Christians can experience true peace: Peace with God The Peace of God The God of Peace

2. We have to experience peace with God through acceptance of Jesus as Lord and Savior before we can experience the peace of God in our hearts.

3. There are many things that can rob our peace, some of which are our own fault. 4. Sin, Self (our old nature), Satan, others and circumstances can all work to rob us of our peace.

5. It is not necessary for Christians to ever live without the peace of God. 6. There are clear instructions in the Bible for how we can experience peace with God, the peace of God, and to have the God of peace with us.

That is the goal of these studies....

Caution...

Physical and chemical things can affect our feelings... Peace is a position of faith, not simply a feeling...