

# HE *Shall Be* CALLED



## Week 4 He's Our Prince of Peace

1. What are the three types of peace Jesus can bring? According to Romans 5:1, what brings peace with God? What does that mean? Read Colossians 3:15. If we do what this verse tells us, what would be the result when it comes to peace with others? According to Philippians 4:6,7, what will bring peace to you personally? According to Galatians 5:22, what is the source of peace for Christians? Of the three types of peace Jesus brings to us, which one do you struggle with the most? Why?

*Answer—From Pastor Rick's message, the three types of peace that Jesus brings to us is: 1. Peace with God, 2. Peace with others, and 3. Peace with ourselves.*

2. In our world today, how do people think that they can achieve peace with God, other people, and themselves? Do you think these methods have been successful? Why or why not?  
*Answer—Most people do not even think of having peace with God while still on earth, and most who do think that peace with God is obtained by trying to “keep the rules” and do good things. Most think that peace with others can be obtained by simply going along with the majority and not “making waves”, even when that means to do or believe things that are against what God says. We are told that peace with yourself comes when you get in touch with your inner feelings and just do what feels right, even if the source of what feels right comes from our sinful natures. Ultimately these will not lead to peace because they are not based on what is true. People who do not live by the truth will suffer the consequences of living based on a lie and will ultimately have turmoil with God, with others, and primarily with themselves.*

3. In his sermon, Pastor Rick said that we must have genuine repentance. What does it mean to repent? What does an unsaved person need to repent of to become a believer? How do most religions define repentance? What is wrong with this definition? Can an unsaved person really do what this definition says they should do? For those of us who are believers, do we need to repent or turn from our sins? What do we have that an unbeliever does not have that would allow us to do this?

*Answer—The word “repent” means to change your mind. An unsaved person needs to change their mind about what they are relying on to get them to heaven. If they are religious, they must change their mind that good works will save them and rely on Christ alone instead for*

*their salvation. If they are an atheist, they need to change their mind about God's existence, realize what Christ did for them, and then trust him as their savior. Most religious people define repentance as turning away from their sin and turning toward God. The problem with this definition is that it basically is saying that a person needs to stop sinning, or at least be willing to try to stop sinning in order to be saved. This makes salvation depend on their ability to stop doing bad things which is another form of works for salvation. The Bible clearly says that "while we are still sinners" Christ died for us. Not only that, but an unsaved person has no capability to stop sinning or turn from their sins, sin resides within us and you cannot turn from something that is inside of you, we are asking them to do something they cannot do. A Christian on the other hand has the Holy Spirit living in him so he is the only person who has any chance of not sinning. We as Christians need to repent of our sins; we need to change our mind about what would be the best way to live our lives. We do need to allow the Holy Spirit to control us so that we do sinless as we grow spiritually.*

4. Read 1 John 1:5-10. What is the context of this passage, what is the main idea that is being addressed? In this context, does verse 9 refer to a requirement we must fulfill in order to get to heaven? How do you know? What does confessing our sin do, in this context?  
*Answer—The context of this passage is how to have fellowship with God, how to have a relationship with him. It is not talking about how to be saved, but how to live as a Christian after you are saved. Confessing our sin does not save us. What it does is put us into a position to live a life in fellowship with God. When we sin, it offends God. Just like in any relationship, if you offend the other person, it halts the growth of the relationship and puts up a barrier between you and the other person. Until you are willing to admit that you were wrong, the relationship will halt in its tracks. It is the same in our relationship with God: Until we admit we are wrong, it puts up a barrier between us and God and until we admit we are wrong, we cannot grow in our relationship with him.*
5. According to Ephesians 2:8,9, is salvation a gift? Pastor Rick said that there are three characteristics of a gift, what are they? What is the only thing a person can do to get a gift? What does John 1:12 tell us a person must do to receive the gift of being a child of God?  
*Answer—The three characteristics of a gift are: 1. A gift cannot be earned, otherwise it would not be a gift. 2. A gift cannot be purchased by the receiver, or it would not be a gift. 3. A gift cannot be taken back by the giver, otherwise it is not a gift. The only thing a person can do to get a gift is to accept it. John 1:12 says that if a person receives Jesus by faith, then he is made a child of God. Receiving salvation by faith is the only thing a person can do to be saved.*
6. Christmas is the time of giving gifts. God gave us the gift of salvation. Read Colossians 3:13. What are we to give to other people the same way God gave it to us? Is there someone in your life right now that you need to give this gift to? Make a plan to do this before the end of this year. Consider sharing this with the other people in your group so they can hold you accountable to follow through on your plan.