Your Plan For Peace | Ryan Wekenman | 02.27.22

Weekly Study

START

To get things started, go around the circle and answer the following questions:

What's your go to movie on a rainy day spent inside?

SHARE

Welcome back! This week Ryan preached us through the story of Joshua, giving us three steps to fight for peace on this side of eternity: get ready, get grateful, and don't forget. While we know that peace is a Person, not a set of principles or practices to strive for, God is still in the business of teaching us to walk lighter in this life. We do so by putting our focus on Him, and making our gratitude about the Giver over the gift, or the promise. When we do so, we'll find less comparison and more contentment for the seasons in our lives. God is a good father, and we can trust Him because of His perfect track record when we can look back and remember all that He's done and gotten us through.

Which step in the 'plan for peace' could you be better in?

How different would your life look and be if you chose to walk out the three steps in Ryan's message with God?

What was the most challenging part of your week?

What was the highlight of your week?

GROW

Read Joshua 3:1-5

Why does Joshua tell the Israelites to "consecrate yourselves"? What does that mean?

Can you relate to Joshua in feeling anxious about having people look to you for guidance?

This Sunday, Ryan talked about how God knew that Joshua was feeling anxious, as he now had the whole nation of Israel looking to him for guidance. God did not offer him cold comfort but promised "for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go". That promise is true for you too.

Our world and our day ahead will have a lot of things that can make us anxious. Like Joshua told the Israelites, we have to consecrate ourselves. To consecrate is to set apart for a divine purpose. Before we hear the thousands of thoughts in our head that day, before we scroll on social media, before we get caught up in our list of things to do, set aside time to pre-decide on peace.

Are you entering a new season in your life? If so, what is it?

Where is your place to pre-decide on peace? How can you build that into your daily rhythm if it is not already there?

MOVE

Joshua 4:1-7

How does God reveal His character through this scripture?

Why did God have Joshua "Choose twelve men from among the people, one from each tribe?

After forty years of being in the wilderness, the Israelites were finally about to crossover into the land God promised them. Before this happened, the Jordan was stopped by God to let them cross through. This was a significant reminder to them that God had done the impossible

before early in their journey by parting the Red Sea, and that in the future, God will always show up and make the impossible possible. The stones that were in the river that were uncovered by God, were laid down by someone from each tribe to show God's faithfulness in every tribe that started on this journey. Each and every one had been delivered into the Promised land: not be their might but by His. How *awesome* is that?

Surely many lost hope during this long journey but God teaches us in scripture that life is a marathon and not a sprint. There will always be obstacles in your life, but God will always be there to help you through them. Remember Jesus said "... In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." (John 16:33). There are so many things to be grateful for; just look back on your life to remember when He got you out of situations that you thought were hopeless or brought you into a land He promised for you.

What are some memorials that show a time in your life when God rescued you out of a situation you thought you couldn't get out of?

What are some ways you can remember the past victories God helped you though when faced new adversity?

PRAY

We need prayer now more than ever. Spend some time-sharing prayer requests. If you are in a coed group, consider breaking off into two separate groups (or calls if you are an online group) to share more freely.

TO GO

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9