



PEACE in Relationships | Jimmy and Irene Rollins | 3.12.23

Weekly Study

SHARE

This week we had Jimmy and Irene Rollins sharing together what it looks like to bring peace into our relationships. They invited us into their own lives, bearing their souls in hopes that we find Christ in our own brokenness and in our relationships. After a decade of highlight reels, everybody's ready for some behind the scenes. People want authenticity and real. And it's truer in relationships than anywhere else. It's time to be real about the struggles of relationships. And it's time to let God be real with us about what he wants for our relationships.

GROW

Read Colossians 3:12-15; Romans 12:17-18

This week Jimmy said that peace is not just for us it is meant to give away, and how we do this is finding peace in God's presence. We first must experience God's peace in order to bring it to someone else, we need to pursue it. We know that this is challenging in real relationships because we are all broken humans and to be peace bringers, we need to ask the Holy Spirit for his help. Remember that people will know Christ by the way we love them. Whether at home, at work, or among friends, we first pursue the peace of God and then pursue peace in our relationships. We cannot bring peace and love

well without pursuing the peace of God in our own life. This peace is more than the absence of struggle and strife. It is the positive presence of harmony, salvation, joy, blessing, and reconciliation of Jesus Christ. Through Jesus we can live in peace and bring peace everywhere to everyone as we pursue God. It is possible.

How have you experienced God's undeniable peace in your life?

Why is it so difficult to experience peace in hardship or in the midst of pain?

Who in your life has been a peace bringer to you?

M O V E

Read Psalms 139:23-24; Ephesians 4:3; Proverbs 16:7-9

Jimmy reminded us that our connection with God requires connection with people. There are some jacked up relationships at our tables. The dysfunctional, distant, difficult, disconnected, and delusional relationships. We have to figure out how-to live in peace in all these relationships and take responsibility as an image bearer of Christ. It is impossible to say that we love God and not love all his people. By the power of the Holy Spirit, we must choose to be the tangible hands and feet of Jesus in our relationships. Jimmy and Irene gave us some ways to do this even if we have been wronged or were the ones who wronged the other.

We are to bring ourselves to a place of humility and pray for those who have hurt us and for their reconciliation with God because just as Irene pointed out, that is the most important relationship we all have. We must examine our own hearts by asking God to search us out before pointing the finger. In pursuing peace in fragmented relationships, it is important to remember that God uses all the broken pieces while accepting that God uses these fractures for a greater purpose for the future. As we choose the path of reconciliation, we have to remember that God's promise of peace in His presence is better than the prison of pain. As the Rollins said this weekend it is the great exchange of pain for God's presence. The invitation is always to seek God and allow him to do the work first within us and in the other person. There

is no other option according to God's Word but to pursue peace. To fail to pursue peace is to disobey God. Pursuing peace through forgiveness pleases our perfect Father and this brings lightness and freedom. We do this because He does this for us. That's good. And He has such a good plan for each of us, we just have to continue to choose Him.

If forgiveness is a decision and reconciliation is a process, what is holding you back from making the decision to forgive?

What fractures have you experienced that has led to God's greater good and healing in your life?

Where do you need to pursue peace? With God? Within yourself? In a fragmented relationship?

P R A Y

Commit to praying for one another asking God to help you love the way Jesus loves us all. It is sacrificial, of humility and with forgiveness.

