Peace Bible Study, Part 2: Blessed are the Peacemakers

Memory Verse
Romans 14:19 // Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.

Recap of Part 1 (Bible Study on Peace from April):
1. What did you learn about peace?
2. How does having a mind of peace help enable us to live peacefully?
3. We discussed how being at peace is more than just having no conflict. How does this apply to living in the way of peace?

Called to be Peacemakers: Matthew 5:8, Ephesians 6:15, Romans 12:18, James 3:18
4. Where are places in your life where you have the opportunity to be a peacemaker? What makes it difficult to be a peacemaker?
5. Why would the peacemakers be called the children of God? What does this tell us about God himself and his characteristics and heart?
6. What is the “gospel of peace”? What do you think it means to put on the ‘preparation’ of the gospel of peace?
7. James provides a test for whether wisdom comes from above. What would be an example of earthly wisdom that is not peaceable vs. the wisdom from above that is peaceable?

Understanding how to live peacefully... by looking at the opposite of peace.
Romans 3:10-18 [see Isaiah 59:1-8 for a similar passage]
8. What are the characteristics of those that don’t know the way of peace?
9. How does this help us understand the way of peace?
10. What are the things that “make for peace”?

11. How does living peacefully edify each other? (may be helpful to look up “edification”)

12. What does the Bible teach about repaying evil with good?

13. How does this help us understand what it means to live peacefully?

14. Jesus’s trial and crucifixion:

   b. How else do Jesus’s trial & crucifixion show us what it means to live peacefully?

15. What are other scriptural examples of living peacefully? (ex. something in Jesus’s life, an Old Testament account, etc.)

Discussion Question: How has your perception of peace grown/shifted over these Bible studies, or through your life?
Scripture

Matthew 5:8  Blessed are the peacemakers; for they shall be called the children of God.

Ephesians 6:15  And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

Romans 12:18, 21
If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.
Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

James 3:18
But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.

Romans 3:10-18
[see Isaiah 59:1-8 for a similar passage]
As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one. Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips: Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness: Their feet are swift to shed blood: Destruction and misery are in their ways: And the way of peace have they not known: There is no fear of God before their eyes.

Romans 14:19
Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.

1 Peter 3:9-11
Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing. For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile: Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it.

Matthew 26: 51-53
And, behold, one of them which were with Jesus stretched out his hand, and drew his sword, and struck a servant of the high priest's, and smote off his ear. Then said Jesus unto him, Put up again thy sword into his place: for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword. Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels?

Luke 22:50-51
And one of them smote the servant of the high priest, and cut off his right ear. And Jesus answered and said, Suffer ye thus far. And he touched his ear, and healed him.