“Kingdom Come”
Sermon on the Mount Series: Seventh Lesson

“BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS, FOR THEY WILL BE CALLED CHILDREN OF GOD.” MATT 5:9

• QUESTION: What impact is the series having on your faith so far?

Peacemakers:
• Not appeasers
• Not peacekeepers
• QUESTION: “What is the difference between peacekeeping and peacemaking?”

1. Peacemaking in the Bible

a. God
• Sending his prophets, the ‘covenant-enforcers’
• Bringing his people back, Zech 8.8, 10.10 (search “bring them back” and similar phrases)

b. Jesus
• From enemies to friends: Eph 2.11-22, Col 1:20.

c. Paul
• Corinth: Starts church (Acts 18); Sends a letter (lost, 1 Cor 5.9); Chloe writes to say all is not well (1 Cor 1.11; 7:1); Paul sends Timothy with a letter (1 Corinthians 4.17; 16:10); Paul visits (2 Corinthians 2:1; 12:14); Paul sends Titus with a letter (lost, 2 Corinthians 2:4, 12ff; 7:5-8); Paul sends another letter (2 Corinthians); On his way to Jerusalem Paul visits Corinth (Achaia) to collect money for poor Christians in Judaea (Rom 15.25-27).
• Philemon: Case study for personal study.

2. Peacemaking in life
[See the more extended notes in the additional handout for this verse]

a. It’s costly
   a. Time: listening to people
   b. Energy: physical, emotional
   c. Spiritually: prayer

b. It’s worth it
   a. God at work creating something beautiful
   b. Rewards of becoming more like Jesus

QUESTION: “What situations has God provided in which you could act as a peacemaker?” “Both for people to find peace with God, and for people to find peace with one another?”

How can you develop a peacemaking spirit? Reflect on the peace you have with God, Matthew 18.21-35. Pray the beatitudes.

QUESTION: How will this verse affect the way you live this week?

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