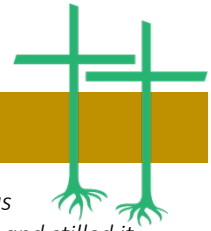


MINISTRY TOOL #5 – FOR MIND RENEWAL

Encouragement & Giving Peace



You carry the kingdom of God, which consists of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit. Jesus commanded you to freely give what you have freely received. Just as Jesus spoke peace to the storm and stilled it, you have life to give, which may come in the form of an authoritative command or a word of encouragement.

Luke 10:5–6 – “When you enter a house, first say, ‘Peace to this house.’ ⁶ If someone who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will return to you.

EXPLANATION:

We all know what encouragement is, so let’s focus on the matter of giving peace.

When Jesus sent out His disciples in Matthew 10, He told them, “As you go, proclaim this message: ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give” (vv.7–8). In verse 13, He instructed, “If the home is deserving, let your peace rest on it; if it is not, let your peace return to you.”

The Greek word for “rest” in this passage is “*erchomai*,” which means to come from one place to another, to come into being, to arise, to come forth, to be revealed, to find influence, to be established, and to become known. It is the same Greek word used in Matthew 3:16 to say that the Holy Spirit—in the form of a dove—descended from heaven and “alighted” on Jesus. Just as the Holy Spirit came in bodily form and alighted on Jesus, the heavenly peace you carry can alight on a person or place.

James 3:18 says, “Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.” As a peacemaker, you carry God’s peace with you, distributing it to all who have need. This peace comes directly from the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22), and it is generally distributed to others through your words. (See Matthew 10:13; Mark 4:39; Luke 10:5–6; John 14:27; 20:19–21; 1 Timothy 1:2, Titus 1:4, Philemon 1:3, 1 Peter 5:14, 2 Peter 1:2, 3 John 1:14, Jude 1:2.)

Encouragement is one way we build people up; but even when there’s nothing to encourage, we can give people the peace we carry from the Lord, freely giving what we have freely received (Matthew 10:8).

GOSPEL SUMMARY:

As noted above, “giving peace” is part of the evangelistic work to which Jesus called us. Isaiah 52:7 says, “How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace . . .”

People who live without Jesus (whether entirely or just in certain areas of their lives) are vulnerable to the enemy and live with normalized inner turmoil. Many are desensitized to the chaos—not even realizing how lost they are without Jesus. Others are keenly aware that their life is a mess. In either case, if you, being full of the Holy Spirit, come into that person's life, the peace within you should be influential enough to silence the storm in that one's heart, mind, and spirit. Those who had been desensitized will be awakened to another way of life, and those who had been aware of their struggle will be intrigued by the shift in the atmosphere. Either way, your introduction of peace into their life situation enables them to “taste and see that the Lord is good,” perhaps causing them to long for the life you express.

The peace we give is part of the kingdom we proclaim and carry. Romans 14:17 says, “[For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.](#)”

HOW TO:

ENCOURAGEMENT:

- Look the person in the eye and speak to them directly.
- Encouragement gives courage.
 - Make sure you give courage to the person's spirit, not their flesh.
 - In other words, try to reinforce the truth of what God says about them, instead of merely pointing out things they're good at without His help.
- Sometimes encouragement becomes prophetic. Listen for the Lord to give you words and thoughts beyond your own ideas about the person.

GIVING PEACE:

- Prayerfully receive your own peace from the Lord.
 - You cannot give what you do not have.
- Speak with authority, by faith.
 - Examples:
 - “Peace to you, in the name of Jesus.”
 - “On behalf of Jesus, I give you peace.”
 - “In Jesus' name, be at peace.”
 - “I bless you with peace, in the name of Jesus.”