

Peace on Earth | Week #03

Celebrating the New Abundance | December 10th and 13th

**Anchor Verse: Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased.
Luke 2:14**

So, What's the Problem?

Jesus said, "I came so that everyone would have life, and have it in abundance." John 10:10

Things are not as they appear: The illusion of _____ distracts us from celebrating the _____.

Mark 6:30-46:

Jesus performs a miracle and shows us the pattern for practicing abundance.

A miracle is a transformative event to demonstrate the saving power of God that is present in and through the _____.

The Christ Presence is _____. (31, 34)

The disciples were _____. (37)

Jesus turns ordinary food into a _____ of God's massive goodness and generosity.

Jesus makes abundance _____. (42-43)

His prayer consists of the four big verbs of _____: "He took, he blessed, he broke, he gave." (41)

The Point: Jesus takes the ordinary _____ in all its scarcity—two fish and five loaves—and transforms them into a generous display of _____.

How does this work in my life as a Peacemaker?

Imitate the Pattern of Abundance modeled by Jesus:

Take... Taking is an act of _____.

Bless... Blessing is an expression of _____ and _____.

Break... Breaking is _____.

Give... Giving increases the _____.

How does this transform me to bring Peace on Earth?

We are recipients of enough and enough and more than enough—to _____ and to be _____ in this Giver, who keeps on giving... endlessly.

What is God inviting me into today?

Let there be peace on earth; and let it begin with me:

1. Begin to practice the pattern of abundance in an area where you feel depleted.
2. Send me the link where I can make my pledge to the 2021 Peace is Worth It! ministry emphasis.

Starter Prayer

God whose giving knows no end, make us glad recipients of your generosity. Give us eyes to see and ears to hear and hearts to remember your abundance, that we might share it with the world. Amen.

Questions for Groups or Personal Reflection

1. Where do you feel depleted and in need of new abundance?
2. How has the pandemic made the problem of scarcity worse for you?
3. Where are you experiencing God's generosity?
4. How could you give of your time to invest in your own spiritual health in 2021?
5. What is your history and experience with regular financial generosity to your church family?
6. What fears come to mind when you think of sharing more of yourself or your resources?
7. Reflect on a time when you participated well in the flow of God's abundance—giving or receiving.